THE NEW GENESEE FARMER,

AND GARDENER'S JOURNAL.

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Publishers' Notices.

TO AGENTS AND SUBSCRIBERS—*An Explanation.*—The number of letters received daily at the Farmer office is very great, (sometimes from 50 to 100) and the health of the acting publisher will not at present allow him to give close attention to business; so that letters are not usually read by the publishers themselves unless they contain something of more than ordinary importance. This will explain many cases of apparent neglect—especially such as omitting to send extra copies to agents entitled to them, but who have not *asked* for them. It will also explain why letters of acknowledgment have not more generally been sent.

The clerks in the office are competent and careful, but they are not infallible, nor do they know every thing. Some mistakes *are* made, but many complaints arise from the negligence of the persons ordering the papers, *in not mentioning what State the Post Office is in.* There may be a dozen offices of the same name in the United States, and if the letter is not marked, it is no wonder if the papers are sent wrong.

A few cases have come to our knowledge where the letters have evidently miscarried or been purloined from the mails, and the money lost. In such cases we consent to bear the loss, after being satisfied that the money was correctly mailed; and when informed of the particulars, we forward the papers.

Distressing Times!

It is too bad—we cannot endure it. What shall we do? We daily receive a greater or less amount of money, on which we have to sacrifice from 10 to 15 cents on a dollar, in discount, and some bills we have to return to those who send them. We presume our friends send us such money as they suppose to be good, and therefore we do not censure them, but we wish to call their attention to the table below, and to inform them that if there is discount on the money, we cannot afford to send the Farmer at the wholesale terms, (allowing a commission) and if the discount is more than ten per cent., we must return the money. (Several of the "*Red back*" banks in Western New York have stopped payment of late, and their bills are unsaleable at present.) The following are the present rates of the principal kinds of bills.

Specie,.....par.		New England.....par.	
Pennsylvania....	6 *a* 10 dis.	Maryl'nd & Virginia,	6 *a* 10 dis
U. S. Bank,....	20 "	New Jersey,....	3 *a* 6 "
Ohio,.....	10 *a* 15 "	Indiana,.....	10 "
Canada,.....	8 "	Illinois,.....	15 *a* 20 "
Suspension Bridge,	3 *a* 5 "	Michigan,.....	25 "

The bills of all the Safety Fund Banks are received in deposite by the Banks of this city; and all the Free Banks are also received at the Rochester City Bank, except the following:

All the 9 Banks at Buffalo—Bank of Western New York—City Trust—Chelsea—Tenth Ward—Staten Island—Farmers', Seneca Co.—Millers', Clyde—Tonawanda—Lodi—Lowville—Olean—Silver Creek—Alleghany—Binghamton—Watertown—Cattaraugus—St. Lawrence—Exchange Bank of Genesee at Alexander—Farmers' & Mechanics' at Batavia—James Bank—Dansville—Farmers' Bank of Orleans at Gaines—Delaware—Mechanics' & Farmers' at Utica—Washington.

Several of the above Banks are no doubt perfectly solvent and will soon be again current —*Rochester Daily Adv.*

To Readers and Correspondents.

We are gratified in being able to give the names in full of several new and valuable writers this month. Other communications are received, some of which will appear next month; but several, *without proper signatures*, we must decline publishing.

THE MONROE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, it should be remembered, meet on the 5th day of May, to make arrangements for the season.

Hints for the Month.

Clover and grass seed, if not already sown, should now be, as soon as possible, that they may receive the full benefit of a moist soil, and a crumbling surface from freezing and thawing, to assist vegetation. When sown upon wheat, a light *harrowing* more effectually insures their growth, and benefits rather than injures the wheat. Be sure to put on plenty of seed—a few shillings more per acre in seed will often bring many dollars more per acre in crop. Sinclair gives the case of a farmer who always stocked heavy with grass seeds, and who always as a consequence secured a heavy coat of herbage the first year, *which differed from old pasture only in being more luxuriant.*

The farmer should also remember the advantage of a mixture of grass seeds,—different species subsisting upon different parts of the soil—and that a given surface of the soil will therefore support a much greater number of plants of different, than of one and the same species.

New meadows should be early and carefully picked of all loose or projecting stones, and the surface rolled smooth. By clearing off stones and filling covered ditches or building walls, the farmer kills at least *three* birds with *one* stone,—he enables the mower to cut more closely and thus save a larger crop of hay; he prevents the frequent loss of hours in the thickest of haying from the dulling of scythes; and useful drains and permanent fences are constructed.

Plaster should be sown early,—as soon as the grass and clover starts a little—a bushel and a half, or thereabouts, to the acre, is as well as three times that quantity.

Spring wheat should be sown as early as practicable. If the soil be dry, it is best, like peas, if covered by means of a light plough. Where wheat has been winter-killed, it may be advantageous to sow those vacant spots with spring wheat.

Let all the manure which has been collecting during winter be carted out on the land. To leave a large heap unapplied is throwing away money by handfuls—a single load will often produce several bushels increase of crop—an enormous waste results from neglect. But where manure is not now applied, let it be made into compost, by mixing soil, or what is far better, swamp muck and peat, with it. One load of stable manure, and three of peat, mixed together, with a small addition of lime, will make four loads of compost, fully equal in effect, and far superior in applying and mixing with the soil, to four loads of stable manure. "Manure is money"—let it not be wasted.

Let all spring crops be put in, in the best manner;—"a good beginning makes a good end,"—most commonly. Plough well—let furrow slices be narrow—(except sward—) furrows six inches wide, will show a much handsomer looking field after ploughing, than those a foot wide. Try it. Thorough work is cheapest.

Sleds, now out of use, should be well taken care of, put under shelter, and raised from the ground. Sleds, cart wheels, &c. are often more injured by standing on damp earth, by which decay soon commences, than all the use, and (other) abuse, that they receive.

Transplanting trees must be done now, or very soon,—or else put off another year. Farmers! have you fruit trees *enough?*—recollect they cost but little—and produce much.—Have you ornamental trees enough round your house?—they are easily planted—cost but a trifle—and make home delightful—rendering what is invaluable, still more invaluable—now is the time.

To Gardeners.

Our readers will perceive by a notice in another page, that a HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY is about being organized, and as an exhibition of Fruit, Flowers and Vegetables, will be held some time during the summer or fall, it would be well for gardeners and amateurs to make early preparations. Our June No. will contain the constitution of the Society and notice of whatever arrangements may be made with regard to exhibitions.

New Silk Reel.—Cocoons.

Mr. Joseph Alleyn of this city, has invented a machine for reeling and spinning silk which it is thought will prove superior to any now in use. It is not quite perfected, but the public will soon have an opportunity of judging of its merits. A more particular account of it may be expected next month.

Mr. Miram Robbins, near Allen's Creek, in the town of Brighton, offers to take a few bushels of cocoons and manufacture them into sewing silk on equal shares, (halves.) We have seen sewing silk manufactured by him, and it was of excellent quality.

Fire-Wood.

Every individual in the land, shares the benefits of fuel for domestic purposes; and no subject can be proposed for our examination in which a greater number of our readers are interested.

Although *fossil coal* may now be obtained both from the *east* and from the *west*—*upward* from Albany or *downward* through the Chemung canal; and though *peat*, apparently of an excellent quality, has been found in some of the adjoining counties; yet farmers will probably for a long time to come, draw their supplies of fuel from their own woods. We shall therefore confine our remarks for the present to this branch of domestic economy.

The difference in value between some kinds of wood is very great. In this district, sugar maple and upland hickory, are considered the best; and willow, butten wood, and Lombardy poplar, perhaps the worst.

But why is not a cord of Lombardy poplar equal to a cord of maple? Chiefly because it does not contain as much carbon. We do not say it would not make as many bushels of charcoal—it would probably yield more. The deficiency is not in the *bulk* but in the weight. Its texture is more porous—there is really less of it. A cord of maple has been estimated in the Genesee Farmer * to produce 25 bushels of charcoal, while a cord of basswood or white pine yields 32 bushels; but then the former will weigh 25 pounds a bushel, while the latter only weighs 15 pounds.

The relative values of fire-wood, have been stated by the same writer in a table, which we shall expand and render plain to the comprehension of all of our readers, as it may be useful in assisting purchasers.

Where a cord of *hard maple* is worth 100 cents, *white beech* and *yellow birch* are worth 80 cents—*white ash* and *white oak*, 75 cents—*soft maple*, *white elm*, and *swamp ash*, 65 cents—*chestnut* and *butternut*, 52 cents—*basswood*, *whitewood*, and *white pine*, 45 cents.

It should be understood however, that in comparing the different kinds of wood, it ought in all cases to be *dry*. Some sorts contain much more sap than others; and if we undertake to burn them *green*, a larger part of the heat will be occupied in carrying off the moisture in some than in others; for all the heat that is required to turn the sap into steam, is lost to us. As an illustration—we should prefer *white ash* to either *sugar maple* or *white beech*, if we must burn them without drying; and the simmering fires of *white oak*, *white elm*, and *swamp ash*, we should rather not approach.

But another view may be taken of the comparative values of fire-wood. It will not be far from the truth, if we estimate one cord that is *well seasoned*, equal to two cords of *green*. Here then by laying in a stock one year before hand, we gain about one hundred per cent.—a speculation certainly worth the attention of every house-keeper.

To leave wood corded up in the woods, however, is a poor plan. A few outside sticks when split fine to let out moisture, may dry enough to be much improved; but the interior of the pile, especially if it be in a shady place, will retain so much of the sap as to become *sour*—a most unfavorable state for fuel. We prefer green wood fresh from the stump.

But though wood which stands corded in the open ground, receiving the benefit of the sun and wind, may dry enough not to turn sour, it may still be in poor condition to burn at the commencement of winter. Every heavy rain has soaked it, often for days together; and its state will be very different from wood that stands free from the ground under a dry shed. More than 25 per cent. of moisture will be retained, which is a heavy drawback from its value.

The difference in the quantities of heat received from the same kind of wood in different conditions, is so palpable where a stove is used, that a person of good observation might satisfy himself without a thermometer; and we believe the following SCALE, beginning with that in the worst condition, will be found nearly correct:—

1. Wet and partly decayed, or water-soaked.
2. Soured by a fermentation of the sap.
3. Remaining corded up in shady places.
4. Corded up in the open ground.
5. Partially decayed in seasoning.
6. Sheltered for 9 months or a year by a good roof.
7. Sensoned several years in a dry building.
8. Kiln-dried.

Whoever will carefully make experiments on fire-wood in all these conditions, must become satisfied that great improvements may be introduced into this branch of domestic economy. †

* Vol. 2. page 2.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

"Bots and Horse Bees."

MESSRS. EDITORS—Some other facts on this subject may be added to those mentioned by "Spectator" in your last paper. It is not easy to decide in what manner the *nits*, deposited by the *bot-fly* on the hair of the horse, pass into the stomach of that noble animal. The fact is certain. By the shaggy coat of the stomach the nits are detained by some unknown contrivance till they hatch into *bots*. By the same contrivance probably the bots are detained till they are full grown, deriving their nourishment from the coats of the stomach. In the course of the following winter and spring, many of them are *voided* by the horse, and may be seen in the manure of the horse stable, half an inch long, sharper at one end which is their mouth, showing many rings, and giving signs of life on being touched, probably to be changed by the heat of summer into botflies. But many of the bots are often retained for a longer period in the horse's stomach, before they are voided by the animal. It is in this case that the bots are so dangerous, and often destroy the horse, as they pass their tapering mouth or proboscis through the shaggy and into the other coats of the stomach, and even through all the coats. I once saw in the stomach of a fine horse that had died from their action, *multitudes of bots sticking into the coats, and many of them had pierced through that organ, so that on scraping them off with a knife the liquid matter of the stomach passed through its coats.* Those bots were large and strong and of a deep flesh color. They might have been detached perhaps by the action of spirits of turpentine, for this substance has great power over all such animals, but the death of the horse must have ensued from the numerous lacerations of the stomach. The only way to prevent the fatal termination, is the application of remedies before the bots have got so deep a hold, and of course before there is any indication, or any alarming symptoms of the disease. In other words, the remedy must be applied while the horse is in good health. This will not commonly or very often be done; and if it should be done, it might not prove effectual. We can know the danger only by the symptoms of the disease, the indications of the danger.

The name given to the bot-fly by naturalists has been *Oestrus*, from the Greek to *excite or to sting*. Hence they called the *gad-fly* or *goad-fly*, which lays its eggs in the backs of cattle, *Oestrus bovis*, or ox-fly; the insect that lays its eggs in the nose of sheep, *Oestrus ovis*, or sheep-stinger; the bot-fly, *Oestrus equi*, or horse stinger. The last, because it inhabits the *stomach* of the horse, is now called *Gasterophilus equi*, the *lover of the stomach of the horse*. The economy discoverable in the works of nature, leads to the belief that the *bot performs some important service in the stomach of the horse*, while its own being is developed and it is preparing to become a flying insect. Probably it is only in a diseased state of the bots that they cease to be useful and become injurious to the stomach. It may be that some disease of the horse first brings on the diseased state of the bots. It is very certain that the larvæ of the sheep-stinger become diseased in the nose of the sheep, and work their way upwards towards the brain, and bring on blindness, and dullness, and loss of appetite, and the staggers, and finally the death of the sheep. The examination of the head shows them to be large, strong, active maggots.

It is well known that the transformations of insects are different and take place under different circumstances. The silk-worm winds up itself in a cocoon to become a chrysalis, and thence a fine *moth*. The common appletree-worm winds up itself by its web and a leaf, and thus undergoes like changes; thus also many others. The worm on the milk-weed attaches itself by its tail to the underside of a rail or limb of a tree, drops off its head, and becomes a beautiful blue and spangled with spots of gold, from which in a few days a splendid butterfly comes forth. The large yellow worm on the common cabbage descends to the ground after its period of eating, drops off its head, and by continued working forces its way into the earth for a winter residence, and the next spring works up to the surface, and comes forth in July or August one of the moths that trouble our candles in the evening to such an extent. The earth too, becomes the habitation of *bots*, till the natural changes take place, and the botflies spring into life to take their common round of annoyance to horses and enjoyment to themselves. This annoyance is greatly increased by the fact that the fertilization of the nits takes place after their deposition on the hair of the horse.

How wonderful are these contrivances and adaptations for the diffusion of life! What a multitude of those wonders present themselves to the eye of the careful and patient observer! C. DEWEY.

March 184 1.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Rust on Wheat.

(Concluded from page 38.)

There is a great diversity of opinion upon this subject, and it seems almost impossible to reconcile the discordant views of those who have written upon it. In an article, on rust, over the signature of Jacob List, copied into the New Genesee Farmer, vol. 1, page 100; from the Farmers' Cabinet, are the following passages:—"It is stated that the fungus is a parasitical plant like the misletoe, but this is not the fact, for the fungus has no power to attach itself, or penetrate the *healthy stalks of the wheat.*" *The foundation or cause of the rust of the fungus, is the putrefying matter discharged from the ruptured sap vessels of the plant,*"

Before settling upon any definite conclusion, as to the *state* of the stalks at the time the seeds of the fungus are deposited, it may be well to notice a few facts relative to this subject. The past season I had a piece of Italian Spring wheat, containing two acres, which joined a piece of winter wheat a distance of some 20 rods. The winter wheat was badly injured by the rust the whole distance, and at the time of harvesting it, the spring wheat adjacent, was found to be considerably rusted. Some 10 or 15 days after, the spring wheat was cut, and was affected as follows:—1st swarth, badly rusted, perhaps 7-8ths shrunk; 2d swarth, a little less; and so on to the 8th, when the

rust disappeared and the grain was plump. The remainder of the piece was not rusted in the least. There was nothing in the soil or quality of the land where these 8 swarths grew, different from the rest of the piece. A few rods from the dividing line between the spring and winter wheat, and in the latter, surrounded by wheat badly rusted, was a bunch of wheat, (containing some 30 or 40 stalks,) *straw perfectly bright and grain plump.* It attracted my attention, when I discovered a pile of excrement that had been dropped by a horse, lying at the roots of the wheat. Two similar cases were noticed the year before.

A few years since my father hauled a number of loads of chip manure on his wheat field, in the fall after sowing, leaving it in piles of two or three bushels each. Through negligence it was left without spreading. This field of wheat, particularly in that part where the chip manure was hauled, was very much injured by rust *except* around these piles. *Here the straw was bright and the grain handsome.*

I will now notice the first passage quoted above, the import of which is, that the fungus is *not* a parasitical plant; and the reason assigned for this belief is, that it "has no power to attach itself to, or penetrate the *healthy stalks* of the wheat." It is evident in the case of the spring wheat, that the sporules of the fungus were blown by the wind, *(remember it lay directly east of the winter wheat,)* and became attached to the stalks (whether *healthy* or not I cannot say) of the wheat, and thus produced the effect described. It is very probable that the wheat must be in a *certain state,* as regards its maturity, or rather its approach towards maturity; and it is also probable that much may depend on the state of the weather, to cause the propagation of the fungus. There could have been no inherent principle to cause the rust in the eight swarths, that was not common or co-existent with the rest of the piece. The conclusion is, that the rust or fungus *spread from the winter wheat,* and could its propagation have taken place sufficiently fast, it would have spread throughout the whole piece. But the wheat was advancing toward maturity, and by the time the rust had reached the distance it did, the stalks had become more hardened, and the weather being unfavorable, its ravages were checked. And here I can account, in a measure, for the escape of the wheat from the rust, in the case of the excrement by the horse, and around the chip manure. The roots of the wheat were protected from the action of the frost, and the nourishment received from the manure, advanced it sufficiently to escape the rust.

Before leaving this part of the subject, I will notice two more facts relative to it. *Wheat under shade trees almost invariably escapes the rust..* In this case the ground is more compact, and is not acted on by the frost so as to injure the wheat; and again, the wheat, if much shaded, is retarded in its growth, and may not be enough advanced to become inoculated with the disease. I had a field of wheat the past season, which on one side, was shaded by a row of trees, a distance of 40 rods. At the time of harvesting, this shaded wheat was in the milk, and although this side of the field was much injured by the rust, *this strip* was not at all affected by it. It was left standing, and sometime afterwards I examined it; *it had ripened free from rust.* The other fact mentioned, has undoubtedly been noticed by almost every farmer. The outside land of a field of wheat, which has been *packed or trodden down* by turning the team while ploughing and harrowing, generally escapes the rust. The reason is obvious: the wheat is not so much acted upon by the frost, consequently ripens sooner.

As it regards the second passage quoted above, to wit: "*The foundation or cause of the rust or fungus is the putrefying matter discharged from the ruptured sap vessels of the plant,*" I shall say but little. The peculiar manner in which the spring wheat was affected by the rust, (in the case given above,) conclusively settles the question. Else why was not the whole piece rusted? Or why should it have gradually decreased until it disappeared with the 8th swarth?

"Then, if the disease is contagious, there must be a beginning?" Certainly. But where do the sporules of all fungi originate? "The leaf and stalk of the wheat, then, must be in a *certain state or situation* to ensure the growth of the fungus?" *This is the grand question.* Wheat most likely to be affected by the rust, is that which has been injured by the frost, during the winter and spring and kept backed until the weather becomes warm, when it grows too rapidly, becomes rank and succulent; it advances in this state until it has eared out and in the blossom; rendered still more tender and moist by the damp, warm weather; the pores swelled to excess, occasioned by the luxuriant flow of sap. It is in this situation, when the seeds of the fungus come in contact with it. They find the right place for their propagation—the fungus *soon* comes to maturity, the sporules fly from stalk to stalk, perhaps carried by the wind some distance; it spreads like wild-fire. J. B. BOWEN.

Aurora, 1841.

Making Hay.

The old proverb says, "Make hay when the sun shines;" but there is something else besides sunshine necessary to make good hay. The grass must be cut when it is mature, or the animals that have to eat it will have a hard bargain.

Many people, including some good farmers, judge of the quality of common hay by its greenness and brightness. It is a fallacious test. We have been feeding out, for a week or two, (3 mo. 8,) hay that was as bright as any body could desire, well made without rain, and kept in the barn. It was a mixture of red-top and Timothy, cut about mid-summer on account of clearing the enclosure for the cattle; and which, had it been left to stand one month longer, would have made excellent hay. As it was, the cattle ate reluctantly, and evidently with some loss of flesh. It is now a pleasure to see with what eagerness they take hold of hay that was cut afterwards.

There is a great difference between the NATURAL and ARTIFICIAL GRASSES. The former, including red-top and Timothy, yield their nutriment principally from the *stem;* and like the Sugar Cane and other plants of the same NATURAL ORDER, should be suffered to stand till the *stems* are mature. On the contrary, the leaves of the ARTIFICIAL GRASSES, including the clovers and lucern, are the most valuable parts; and for this reason, these kinds should be cut when the *leaves* are in the most perfect state. †

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Agricultural Experiments--their Dependence on Climate and Soil.

MESSRS. EDITORS—It strikes me as very important that every correspondent who states the result of his rural experiments, should give the name of the State and county in which he lives, in order that the effect of soil and climate may be taken into the account.

A farmer in Pennsylvania, without giving his longitude, comes out deadly hostile to Timothy hay, giving clover the preference. Eastern Pennsylvania is too warm and dry to be a first rate hay country; hence the long tap root of clover pentrating into the moist subsoil, is thus enabled to yield well, when Timothy is dried up. Not so in the elevated mountain region of north western Pennsylvania. There clover grows rank, and its stalk is ligneous and almost worthless, while Timothy attains a perfect growth.

I once, at Germantown, Pa., saw Indian corn sown broadcast for fodder. The same is done in the Island of Cuba and other equinoctial countries, too warm and dry for grass.

Of late several clover machines have been ordered from this place to Alabama, where it is said clover thrives well, while Timothy can hardly be made to live.

There is very little doubt but that in Madison and the South part of Oneida counties, in this State, a much larger crop of potatoes can be raised for a succession of seasons, than in what is called the Genesee country, from the fact that this region is higher, cooler, and less subject to summer droughts. But on the other hand we are, with like attention, much more certain of a crop of corn, and our clover hay is better, from the very fact that our climate is warmer and drier.

SENECA.

Peck's Pleasant (Apple.)

Some years ago, we received grafts under this name from Rhode Island; and though one branch has borne several crops, we hardly became acquainted with it before this winter, except to observe that it was generally fair and free from that smut (a Lichen?) which damages so many sorts of apples in our humied seasons.

Fruit above the middle size, heavier on one side setting the stem rather obliquely, somewhat flattened, broadest at the base, 3 inches in diameter, 2¼ deep.—*Eye* closed in a shallow depression. *Stem* three quarters of an inch long, inserted in a wide and deep cavity. *Skin* greenish when first gathered, changing as it ripens to a delicate pale yellow, except on the side next the sun, where it is tinged with pale red.—*Flesh* yellowish white, firm though tender, sub-acid, delicate.

A dessert apple, keeping through the winter. 3 mo. 10. It is now in fine condition.

Its principal defect when it grows on crowded branches in the shade, is a deficiency of flavor; but where it is of good size—has been fully exposed to the sun, and acquired a fine blush,—it is a very superior fruit.

We have seen no notice of this apple except in Prince's Catalogue and in Kenrick's New American Orchardist, where a meagre description occurs. It is given on the authority of Stephen H. Smith of Rhode Island: "One of the most saleable apples in market—skin smooth—yellow in the shade—a blush next the sun—flavor pleasant and good—an excellent dessert fruit.—Nov. Feb." We abbreviate the language, not having the book at hand, but endeavor to preserve the substance.

☞ A few words in regard to describing fruit: In theory, the calyx (or blossom) is considered the upper end because it is more remote from the root, although it may hang below; and hence the *Eye* of an apple is described as being in a depression (a sinking in) while the *Stem* or *Stalk* is said to be in a CAVITY (a hollow below.) †

Sore Throat in Swine.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Turn animals so effected, into a pasture where there is fresh feed and ground to root. It is a disease resulting generally from confinement. Pounded Charcoal mixed with food, where pasture cannot be had, or room for exercise, is one of the best preventives of diseases in swine. J. M.

Discovery of the Effect of Plaster on Land.

Professor Liebeg, of Giessen, has discovered that snow and rain water always contain ammonia; hence its presence in the atmosphere. Plaster, (sulphate of lime,) forms this ammonia in the soil, and keeps it there to stimulate and feed vegetation, in the same manner as lime prevents the escape of the humic acid and other fertilizing gasses, from animal and vegetable matter. SENECA.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Important Discovery--How to render Wood Imperishable and Incombustible.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—A discovery of the highest importance appears to have been made in France, by which the long-sought preservation of wood from ordinary decay, combustion, &c., is finally achieved.—This has been done by introducing into the wood itself, through the agency of vegetable life, the substances which contribute to these important ends.

It has, indeed, been long known to amateur Botanists, that the flowers of house plants, &c., may be colored by the introduction of coloring matter into the organization of the plants; and that the flavors of fruits may sometimes be injured or destroyed by liquids poured upon the ground, at the root of the tree, at the season of their ripening, which are subsequently imbibed into the vegetable circulation. But these isolated facts have hitherto remained with their possessors, without any useful suggestions having been drawn from them, like a multitude of other scientific truths, which only require to be *applied to the arts*, to produce the most important results of usefulness to mankind.

The announcement of this discovery comes to us under circumstances which leave little doubt of its truth. The discoverer having submitted his results to the Academy of Sciences, of Paris, a commission was named from that highly scientific body, to investigate the subject, and make a report thereon. In the hope of usefulness, I have made a translation of this report, (omitting some portions, as irrelevant to my purpose,) for your paper, which I subjoin; deeming it highly important that experiments should be extensively made, the ensuing summer, in conformity with the discoverer's process, as shown in the report. It would be no trifling result to secure timber, in all situations, from decay, and our buildings from conflagration, at a cost so trifling as to be within the reach of all.

A physician of Bourdeaux, Mons. Boucherie, has arrived at the all-important result of rendering the tissue of wood almost entirely unattackable by those causes of destruction to which it is ordinarily subject; and at the same time his processes render it much more suitable to the various purposes to which it is applicable in the arts.

A commission of the Academy of Sciences, at Paris, having been named, to examine the subject, Mons. Dumas, in the name of the commission, made in December last, the following report, as the result of its investigations:

"The Academy has charged Messrs. Arago, de Mirbel, Poncelet, Gambey, Audoin, Boussaingault and myself, with the examination of the Memoir of Mons. Boucherie, relative to the preservation of wood, the following is the result of our labors:

"The Academy has already examined, with the most lively interest, the preparations of the author; and it has before it, at this moment, pieces of these so remarkable that the task of its commission is thereby greatly abridged. Mons. Boucherie proposes to render wood much more durable, to preserve its elasticity, to prevent the variations in volume which it experiences through the agencies of dry and humid atmospheres, to diminish its combustibleness, to augment its tenacity and its hardness; and, finally, to communicate to it various and durable colors and odors.

"To assume that all these exigencies have been satisfied, and that this has been accomplished by methods, cheap, simple and new; and consummated through the agency of substances that are common, and which bear but a low price, is to fix the attention of the Academy, in a few words, upon the important features of the subject we are charged to examine.

"For the purpose of penetrating an entire tree with preservative, coloring, or other matter, the author has recourse to no mechanical, costly or complicated means; he finds all the force of which he has need, in that process, within the tree itself,—the same force by which its own sap is elevated and distributed through its various parts. This, alone, suffices to convey from the base of the trunk to the very leaves, all the liquids which he wishes to introduce, provided that these are maintained within certain limits of chymical concentration. If a tree be felled, while in full sap and leaf, and the base of the trunk be at once plunged in a vat or reservoir containing the liquid which it is desired the timber shall imbibe, that liquid, in the space of a few days, will ascend to the very leaves, and penetrate every part of the vegetable tissue, except the heart of the tree, which, in some instances of great age and hardness, or imperfect vitality, resists the absorption, and is not penetrated.

"It is not entirely necessary that the tree shall retain all its branches and leaves during this process, although it is important that those of the extreme top should remain uninjured.

"It is not important that the tree shall remain standing during the operation, which would not always be convenient: it may be felled, and its butt submerged in the liquid it is destined to absorb, when this will find its way to every part.

"On the other hand, the tree may be treated standing, if this be preferred; for it is only necessary that cavities be cut near the bottom, or the trunk be partially severed by a saw, and that the parts thus prepared be put in contact with the liquid, to ensure the desired result.

"This species of penetration, or absorption, which is effected in a few days, without either difficulty or labor, is, as will be readily seen, wholly different from any means hitherto employed. Previous methods are well known to consist of forcing the ingredients into the pores of the wood, by powerful pressure, or of introducing them by the prolonged and imperfect action of liquids prepared at much cost, in huge vats, in which the timber is kept submerged.

"The new and ingenious process of Mons. Boucherie has placed at the command of industry an immense *natural* force which enables it, without cost, to conduct into the most delicate vegetable tissues all soluble substances which it may be desirable to deposite there.

"If the author has resolved, in a simple and ready manner, the great problem which he at first proposed, he has not manifested less sagacity in his choice of the substances which he has adopted for fulfilling all the indications announced above.

"To augment the duration and hardness of wood, and to oppose its decay, either dry or humid, the crude pyrolignite of iron is to be introduced into its tissue. This substance is wisely chosen, because crude pyroligneous acid is produced in all the forests, in the process of manufacturing charcoal; and it is easy to convert this into the pyrolignite of iron, by simply putting it, even when cold, in contact with scraps of old iron; and because, also, that the liquid, thus prepared, contains much creosote, which independently of the salt of iron, itself possesses the property of hardening, and of guarding against the attacks of decomposition, as well as the destruction caused by insects, wood and timber employed in constructions and for other purposes.

"Authentic experiments tried in the cellars of Bourdeaux, upon hoops, prepared by the author, have proved, in the most conclusive manner, the prolonged duration of wood, after subjection to his process.—The ordinary hoops fell to powder, upon the least application of force to them, while those of the same age, which had been subjected to his preparation, were as solid as upon the first day they were placed there.

"If he wishes to preserve the elasticity of wood, and to render it less combustible, the author has found in the employment of chlorine with an earthy base, the means of accomplishing these ends. Ever preoccupied with the thought that his discoveries, to be most serviceable, must receive universal practical application, the author has not contented himself with the employment of the chlorate of calcium, notwithstanding its great cheapness, but he has analyzed the sea water from the pits of the salt works, which is without value, and by so doing has obtained therefrom all the qualities necessary to his purpose. The different woods prepared by his saline solutions preserve their flexibility, even after several years exposure to the air; and thin sheets of this wood were twisted into spirals, first in one direction and then in the contrary one, without their suffering the slightest fracture or injury of any kind. Exposed to the air these thin pieces were neither split or otherwise injured however dry they became: and, finally, they were so far incombustible as to be incapable of sustaining or propagating conflagration.

"To these highly useful properties, which the constructors of ships, bridges, dwellings, &c., will readily appreciate, and turn to profit, the author has joined others, less important, certainly, but still new, and not without interest, in the arts. He *colors* woods in clouds so varied and casual as to promise much utility, by the employment of his method in ornamenting the most ordinary woods, so as to fit them for the fabrication of furniture, and for other purposes of ornamental use.

"The specimens of this kind, now before the Academy, relieve us from all details upon this head; and it therefore suffices for us to say:

"That the pyrolignite of iron, alone, gives a very beautiful brown tint;

"That by causing tannin to be absorbed by the tree, after the pyrolignite of iron, the mass of the tree is rendered black, while some portions exhibit tints of blue, black and gray;

"That by introducing, first, the pyrolignite of iron, and afterwards the prussiate of Potassa, a fine Prussian blue is produced;

"That by introducing, successively, the acetate of lead and the chromate of potassa, a lemon, or chromate of lead color is produced;

"That by introducing into the same trunk, the pyrolignite of iron, prussiate, and acetate of lead, and chromate of potassa, the whole wood assumes a series of clouds of blue, green, yellow and brown, which collectively produce the most varied and pleasing effect.

"The colors and shades may be varied almost to infinity, according to taste or fancy; as chymistry is sufficiently rich, in agents of this nature, to satisfy the wants, and even the caprices, of the most fastidious.

"We have said nothing here, of the communication of odors to woods, by impregnations of this kind, because this is an application easily comprehended without explanation; and also because it is too strictly limited to the demands of luxury to be placed in the same scale of importance with the valuable results which we have above enumerated.

"It is evident, from the bare announcement of all these results, that they have not been, and never could be, the result of accidental discovery. The author has deduced them from simple ideas; and they are the fruit of long continued and laborious studies and experiments."

The commission closed their labors with a recommendation that a copy of their report be transmitted to the ministers of agriculture and commerce, of the public works and the marine, of finances and of war, which recommendation was adopted by the Academy.

At a subsequent sitting of the Academy, that body received notice from the ministers of war and of finance, that they had recommended the method of Dr. Boucherie to the special attention of the commissioners of engineers, the artillery, and the woods and forests. This shows the importance that is attached to the discovery, by public functionaries, and by the first scientific men of this, or any age, residing upon the spot where its results have been witnessed and investigated.

R. W. HASKINS.

Buffalo, March 22, 1841.

Joint Interest of the North and South in their inter-State Trade.

All classes at the North taxed for Revenue—not so at the South. Tobacco Planters beginning to understand their interests. The end of State Stocks as a remittance to pay foreign debts.

MESSRS. EDITORS—The Cotton Planters of the South export more, and consume less, of their own productions, than the farmers and manufacturers of the North. Hence our maratime commerce receives its greatest stimulus from the South. Northern ships carry both ways all that is raised of agricultural staples, and all that is consumed of manufactures at the South; and as Pennsylvania, New York, and New England, are more legitimately the workshops for the South, than all the rest of the world, we can easily see of how great importance the South is to the North, and vica versa.

But the South very much overrates her importance to the Union, when she asserts that because she pays a large portion of our foreign debt with her cotton, she ought on that account to receive her wines and silks without impost.

It is ascertained that there is not a sufficient impost levied on foreign importations, to support the Federal Government. But if it was double the amount it now is, we would ask what proportion of this revenue would be paid by the cotton planter? Does his barefoot *black laborer*, who receives his yearly suit of Yankee tag lock cloth, and eats his peck of corn a week, consume any article that pays a duty to government? I believe there is a single manufacturing town in New England, which, if silks were taxed, would pay more of the duty on that article, than half the cotton planters in South Carolina. At the South, the rich only consume those articles which pay an impost duty. At the North, and in all the free States, the whole mass of the people, the poor as well as the rich, contribute in this way to the support of government. But in the cotton growing States, the great working mass of the population, are of no more political or social account, save in the representation they give to their masters, than the horses and cattle of the North.

We have shown, in a former article, that all the cotton shipped from the United States to France in a single year, did not pay for the silks imported from thence the same year. Is it not therefore a wise policy to encourage the culture and manufacture of silks in our own country, by a moderate impost on the imported article. Would not the South be much more profitably employed, if, instead of all cotton, she turned her attention, in part, to silk culture? Her plantations would not then be so continually desolated by that exhausting crop; her banks would not then be ruined; her planters bankrupt by the low price of cotton, the result of over production and consequent glutted markets.

Our tobacco planters, heretofore so obtuse in relation to the laws of trade, now, quickened by a sudden insight into the full extent, at least of their own suffering interests, begin to ask for protection in the shape of countervailing duties. When our farmers complain of the British Corn Laws, they are answered by the fact, that there is generally as much corn and pulse raised in the United Kingdom as will suffice its consumption, and that if foreign corn was admitted free, it would only lower the price there, to the stimulating of the manufacturing interest into our more successful competitor.

But as tobacco is not indigenous either in England or France, the enormous duty levied on it there seriously lessens its consumption, while it reduces the profit to the American tobacco grower, without offering any boon to European Agriculture.

If ever there was a time when countervailing duties might be tolerated, and home productions encouraged as indispensible to this nation's social health, that time has now arrived. For years back we have paid for our surplus imports in United States Bank shares, State stocks, &c. &c. But in the utter failure of all these devices, all balances must now be paid in coin, every dollar of which we are told will give to the community three dollars of sound paper currency, which alone can keep up the prices of the real estate of the country in like ratio. S. W.

Transplanting Trees.

Although we gave some directions last season, in regard to transplanting trees,—yet we feel warranted in calling the subject up again on account of its great importance, and because it is so little understood by many persons who ought to cultivate trees.

When they are taken up in the nursery, care enough is not commonly taken to guard the roots against drying or freezing. Oftentimes they are carried many miles in an open wagon through warm sunshine, without as much as a blanket to protect them, and perhaps kept a day or two in this state. If the fibrous roots are not all destroyed by such treatment, at least the *spongioles* (tumid ends of the fibres) must be all withered; but frost when it reaches them in this uncovered state, is not less injurious if they are allowed to thaw in the open air. Bury them therefore without delay, and keep them so till the frost is all extracted. Even peach trees, which are more tender than pears and apples, have survived when planted in a frozen state. In short, guard them at the time of transplanting from both cold and dryness; and reflect how much a fresh wound through our own skin would suffer from exposure.

It is not uncommon for a farmer to determine on planting an orchard, without stopping to consider whether his ground is in a suitable condition, or not. Perhaps it is covered with grass—a meadow or a pasture. Holes are then dug just large enough to admit the roots of the trees; and if a prong should project too far, and be too stiff to bend in, a side cut is made for its special accommodation. When the roots are covered, the job is finished for that season. A friend of ours, three years ago, procured pear trees from our nursery; planted them in the manner we have described; and the season proving favorable, all of them lived, which however, he had no right to expect; and they continued to live as he informed us to-day, but with no more growth perhaps than just to keep them alive. Now what has been the result of this course? All the time since they were planted has been lost in regard to them—the period for gathering their fruit has been deferred; and the money so invested has produced no interest.

Ground to be appropriated for an orchard or fruit garden, should be ploughed deep, and rendered perfectly mellow before the trees are planted out. No better crop can be selected for this purpose, than potatoes. To those who intend to have things done *in the best manner*, we would recommend holes of six feet in diameter, and eighteen inches deep; but those who feel as if they could not work in that style, may dig holes four feet in diameter; and then the following directions may be useful:—

Lay the rich soil at the side of the hole; but the yellow or sterile subsoil throw back, so as to have it out of the way, and not in danger of mixing with the better materials. Chip-dirt, or something similar, should be mixed with the earth in filling the hole—perhaps one-fourth, beginning from the bottom. All trees that we have tried, seem to luxuriate in such a soil. Set them nearly at the same depth as they stood originally in the nursery; but then the earth should be raised about six inches above the level of the ground round the hole, to allow for settling—otherwise the tree in a year or two may stand in a depression.

It is important to have fine earth to throw amongst the roots, leaving no hollow, but every fibre coming in contact with the soil; and it is a good practice when filling in, to shake the stem from time to time, an inch or so up and down, to let the earth settle in between them. When it is all filled in, press the earth down firmly with the foot.

There is another way of planting trees that may do however, when a man has no spade, or is unwilling to use one; and that is, to plough trenches where the rows are to stand. Broad hoes or shovels well worked would soon make the necessary excavation; and the rich mould may be removed into it by the scraper, at the same time taking care not to mix with it the sterile subsoil.

Well, what next? Why, have every tree fastened to a stake, so that the wind shall not shake it and loosen its roots; or by pressing the stem against the earth near the surface, make a hole down which the air can reach them and dry them. It is seldom, if ever, that a young tree does well when it is bent about in that manner, either by the wind or by the pigs. If the stake is to be upright, it should be set close to the stem; and as it might injure the roots if driven in amongst them, we prefer driving it before the tree is set, which can then be placed near the stake without danger. Sometimes however, we drive the stakes *slanting* into one side of the hole, and thus avoid bruising the roots. Straw bands are the best for fastening, because if we wrap the band once round the stake before the tree is connected with it, it prevents them from chafing.

When the trees are planted, they are not to be forgotten. Neither horses, nor cows, nor sheep, must approach them. If hogs are permitted to range there, first and foremost, tie branches of the sweet brier round every tree as a sign for these animals to keep their distance. Hogs will take hints of this kind, and faithfully observe them.

Not done yet? No—we have some more advice to offer of great importance. Strawy manure from the stable or barn-yard, may be very usefully employed round the trees to stimulate their growth, to keep the ground cool by shading it from the sun, and to keep it moist by retaining the light showers that fall through the growing season. But this is not all. As often as once a month, the litter should be raked off, and the ground round each tree well hoed to the *distance* of two or three feet, and to the *depth* of three or four inches. See that the workmen do it faithfully, for some may think an inch is deep enough; and then replace the manure.

A tree planted and treated in the manner recommended is almost sure to grow, if the soil is not worked when it is too wet; and will grow many times faster than one that is neglected. Besides it will come much sooner into bearing, and always bear larger and better fruit.

Agriculture in Nova Scotia.

Through the politeness of the Secretary, Dr. C. C. Hamilton, we have received a paper containing some transactions of the Cornwallis Agricultural Society. We extract the following remarks from the report of a committee on the condition of agriculture, and the best means for its improvement in Nova Scotia:—

"Your committee do not hesitate to say, that one grand cause, why our agriculture does not occupy that exalted position among us, to which it is entitled, is, the want of intelligence in the farming population. This can only be remedied by the acquisition of agricultural knowledge, and its application to practical purposes; and your committee would earnestly recommend the members of our society, and others, to peruse the periodicals and standard works devoted to their calling, which can be so cheaply obtained, and which so much abound in interesting and instructive matter to the Farmer.

In proof of our deficiency in this respect, it may be mentioned, that although there are about 450 farms, only 12 agricultural newspapers are taken, throughout this Township. The great advantages of intellectual cultivation cannot be too highly prized, and can only be appreciated by those who enjoy them. Of all other arts and sciences, a thorough knowledge of their principles, is considered indispensable to success; surely the farmer will not remain inert, and indifferent, with ample means of information within his reach, and with prospects of a speedy, and adequate reward to animate his exertions.

Your committee in directing their attention to those sources, from which our Agriculture may be revived and improved, cannot but deeply lament the withholding of Legislative assistance.

In England, Scotland, France, and the United States, &c., large sums are annually given for the encouragement of agriculture, and in proportion to the expenditure, has been its rapid advance, in all those countries. Any one conversant with the state of *their* agriculture, can readily draw the painful contrast.—Your committee having observed the spirit heretofore manifested by the House of Assembly, cannot forbear from urging on our members, the necessity of renewed diligence, in the hope that something may be accomplished, ere another session shall pass by."

Fictitious Signatures.

If it were the custom in any deliberative assembly —whether at Washington or at Albany—for the orators to conceal their persons and disguise their voices by speaking through trumpets,—would their speeches interest the audience as much as they do at present?

When a person walks in, or sits down in a legislative gallery, is he satisfied to close his eyes and listen to strange voices? Would not the same sentiments and the same arguments be more interesting if he knew from whose mouth they proceeded? Is it not a laudable curiosity that prompts him when a speaker takes the floor, to ask who he is, and to whom he belongs?

Now as we presume our readers will be willing to concede the right answers to these questions, we will take the liberty to ask another. Would not the anonymous articles which are found in our columns, be more interesting if we knew who wrote them? We are free to admit the title of some writers to concealment, such as our [Fair] correspondents "Annette" and "Fanny;" but to "C. D"—"S. W."—"P"—"B," and many others, whose names if written out would shed a halo round our pages,—we feel unwilling to make this concession. We do not insist, indeed—being gratified to hear from them under any signature—but we hope they will consider how much our interests, and the interests of the community, would be promoted by such disclosures; and how much more eagerly the reader would take up our paper to learn something of his old friends and acquaintances. †

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Importance of Wheat Culture.

Messrs. Editors—To improve the true interest of *the farmer*, of any section of country, you must most surely instruct him in the management of his lands for the production of the staple crop of the country, or to the growth of that crop for which his lands are best adapted, and which will yield him the greatest profit. It is well known that our principal profit is produced from our wheat crop. It is the adaptation of our soil to the production of this finest of grain, that will ever render our lands valuable above any others adapted only to the production of the coarser grains. And accordingly wisdom would dictate that our improvements in agriculture should tend mainly to the increased growth of this crop. It is true that exclusive wheat cropping may not be advisable; but in the management of our farms we ought to adopt a system of rotation not calculated to interfere with the growth of wheat; but rather to fit and prepare our lands for the reception of that crop. Since the settlement of this country perhaps too much attention has been turned to raising wheat, or we may have practised a bad system, and thereby drained and exhausted our lands in many cases; but having discovered this error, we must not henceforth quit our old crop and bestow our attention on other branches of farming to the neglect of this. And now, Messrs. Editors, what I would complain of in your paper, is the little attention paid by your agricultural writers to wheat growing, and the much to other things of minor importance. Perhaps it is taken for granted by all, that no information can be imparted to our farmers on this subject. The old motto that "practice makes perfect," I think will hardly apply in this case; for surely I believe that there are no greater errors committed among us, than in wheat culture; and there is no branch of cropping in which farmers more disagree than in this. For example, some think the best time for seeding is the last of August and the first of September; others think the middle or last of September preferable; some will plough in seed, others harrow in; some think one bushel per acre sufficient, others two and others three. And also in regard to fallowing, there is much diversity of opinion. Now these and many other points which might be mentioned, are subjects worthy the attention of some of your intelligent, practical, agricultural writers, and subjects which might be profitably discussed. If some of your able correspondents will give us a chapter monthly on the subject of wheat culture, grounded on experience and observation, there will be more good resulting to the farming interest of Western New York, than all the articles on ruta baga and mangel wurtzel that have ever appeared in all the agricultural papers in the Union. Not but that the root culture has its share of interest and credit, but in this section it is of minor importance; and surely the New Genesee Farmer ought to be adapted to its location

Yours respectfully, R.

We fully agree with the preceding remarks on the importance of the wheat culture, and we earnestly call upon our correspondents to furnish whatever may be valuable upon the subject. We think however, that the culture of root crops is quite underrated, as it is on these that the farmer must greatly depend for the successful and profitable feeding of cattle, and consequent manufacture of manure, that prime mover in good farming, not by any means excepting the culture of wheat itself.

A premium would have been offered last year, by the Genesee Agricultural Society, for the best wheat crop, had it not been too late when the list of premiums was published.

Best Time for cutting Timber.

We suppose another age must pass away before the notion of *lunar influence* on timber will be entirely exploded. When the yielding mind of childhood receives a wrong impression from a parent or preceptor, and it is allowed to *harden* for years before Philosophy attempts to efface it, argument too often glances off like water from a goose's back.

On what does this notion rest? Why the moon raises tides on the ocean. Admitted; but on what else is its influence felt? If it has not *room enough* to raise tides on our lakes, can it possibly raise tides of sap in the pores of a tree, where a microscope is necessary to discover them?

But if it did raise the sap, what advantage could we derive from that knowledge? It would raise tides every day; and no one particular time would be better than another.

It has been handed down to us as a rule worthy of remembrance, that "the old of the moon in February is the best time to cut timber." But why is the *old* of the moon better than the *new*? This question might puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer. The "old of the moon" may come on the first day of the month; or it may come on the last—it may differ a whole month. The sap may be frozen, and the moon not able to stir a particle. Or can it act on solids as well as fluids? If it can act on frozen timber, why not on seasoned timber, or solid rock? We cannot understand such occult principles.

We admit indeed that the time prescribed may serve well for cutting *some* kinds of timber; but certainly it is not the *best* time to cut *all* kinds of timber.

We believe it may be laid down as a maxim that *timber is most durable if cut when it contains the least sap;* and we have no knowledge that sap ever runs from a tree in full leaf. On a former occasion we stated a fact from an observant neighbor that basswood rails which be cut when the sap was in full flow, rotted before they seasoned, though immediately laid up in a fence. On the reverse, we have several instances of timber cut in summer that proved very durable, with not one case to the contrary. We therefore infer that the gradation from the best time to the worst is in the following order: Summer—Autumn—Winter. No timber should be cut in the Spring before the tree is in full leaf.

Physiologists when treating of the functions of plants, have been too fond of drawing general rules, like other people, from a few observations. Because the sap of *some* trees, flows not in winter, they have erroneously concluded it was so with *all*. The sap of the sugar maple however, flows as soon as the leaves drop in autumn; therefore to have that timber durable, it should be cut when the tree is in leaf; and as every leaf is employed in pumping out the moisture, it might be well to let the tree lie untrimmed till they are withered.

A timber tree may be very valuable or otherwise, according to the time of cutting it; and in this country where they are growing scarcer every year, it is more especially important to have the best information on the subject. †

Discovery in Sugar Making.

The following communication came too late for last month, but we now insert it, with the hope that possibly it may not be too late for trial this season. We know nothing of the value of the proposed improvement.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Messrs. Editors:—As the time for making Maple Sugar is at hand, I take the liberty of sending for insertion, a very simple plan for clarifying it and making a much purer and whiter article than can be done by any other means. For some time the process was a secret, it having been accidentally discovered by a farmer whose sugar in consequence always commanded a higher price and more ready sale than that of his neighbors, and who for a long time would not let the method he used be known.

The story is this:—Having once borrowed a sugar kettle from a neighbor, on attempting to use it, he found it leaked from some cracks. Hoping to remedy the evil he threw in some Indian meal to fill up the cracks and enable him to use it. It did so; and to his astonishment on "sugaring off," he found a much better article than he was in the practice of making. As the corn meal was the only thing he could attribute it to, he continued the use of it, and soon ascertained that it was a very great improvement on the common method of sugar making.

The receipt is as follows:—To the sap required for 40 or 50 lbs. of sugar, add about a pint of corn meal, to be put in while cold and boiled together.

The above I received casually from a farmer who has used the process, and a neighbor of him who discovered it. It is so very simple, and I am induced to believe so very efficacious, that I send it for insertion in your valuable paper, with the hope that it may prove of use to some of your readers. Should any try it, I hope they will let it be known in some future number, how it succeeded. VERNET.

Cazenovia, Feb. 25th, 1841.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Blue Grass and Quick Grass, (or Couch Grass.

Messrs. Editors—The prevalence, tenacity, and prolific dissemination of the grass well known among us by the name of Blue Grass, (*Poa compressa*;) the increased expenses of cultivation, and greatly diminished returns of product which result from its presence in our grain fields and cultivated meadows at once demand, and will repay, the strictest inquiry as to the most successful means for its prevention or eradication.

This grass seems to be the natural or spontaneous growth of rich, moist land in this country, and its seeds appear to be thence disseminated by domestic animals, upon the upland pasture, where the open

tions of tillage divide and spread its roots and seeds, eventually filling up the soil to such a degree, that ordinary, and otherwise sufficient cultivation, produces little or no return of grain; and land seeded for meadows, where it exists in the soil, produces one or two meagre and inferior crops of hay, and is then run out. But the most common mode of disseminating this grass, is by sowing clover seed chaff mixed with its seeds, having been mowed from land where it exists; and in this manner whole fields, previously exempt, have been at once filled up with Blue Grass. An obvious preventive in this case, will be to use the clover mill and sow the clean seed—although an opinion is very prevalent that the seed in the chaff is more likely to vegetate and survive than if sown clean.

A more pernicious, but somewhat similar variety of grass is found on some farms in this section, called *Quick Grass* or wild rye, *(Triticum repens.)* They appear much alike in their general character, modes of propagation, and injurious effects; and both require the most thorough and persevering care in cultivation to destroy them. The extreme severity of our winter frosts; and also the usually continued drouth and heat of our long summers, afford us facilities for this purpose which are not possessed by the agriculturist of Great Britain. Numerous experiments confirm the opinion that the vegetative powers of this grass are very much weakened by exposing the root to the action of severe frosts. Accordingly shallow ploughing, (as the roots do not run deep,) applied the later in the fall the better, by exposing the tender roots to the frost—the tillage to be continued by ploughing or harrowing as soon as the land is fit in the spring, has been found very effectual. After this process, it is advisable to plant the ground with corn, and cultivate it thoroughly, or to summer fallow for wheat.

In one instance a very heavy coat of Blue Grass growing on wheat stubble, (the wheat crop was a total failure,) was ploughed in the fall, and though worked in the spring, was wholly unfit for oats or corn. It was sowed with buckwheat at the usual time, which, producing a heavy growth, completely destroyed the Blue Grass. The next season however, there was much very minute Blue Grass in the land, supposed to have sprung from the seed; which suggests the necessity that the cultivation, or the density of the succeeding foliage, should be such as to prevent this result. Instances of success are stated from one ploughing and rolling, performed just before planting with corn. Of this the writer cannot speak from successful experience. The usual process of summer fallow, by two or three ploughings, commencing in May or June, although it may produce pretty good crops of wheat, has little effect in permanently destroying this grass, or fitting the land containing it for profitable meadow. In managing a fallow much advantage is lost, by failing to apply the harrow, during haying and harvest. The effects which a harrow applied, once over, every ten days, in dry, hot weather, has upon all noxious grass within its action, is truly surprising. In cases where small patches of the variety here termed Quick Grass exists, much caution is necessary to prevent its spread by the plough and harrow; and when the soil is properly loosened, a man with a many pronged fork and basket, will find profitable employment in gathering the roots and carrying them off the land.

Messrs Editors—I consider this an important subject, and have given it considerable attention for some years past; and as I have not seen much in your paper respecting it, am led to hope that the foregoing suggestions may be useful to some of your readers.

I am cordially yours, &c.

Caledonia. JOHN McVEAN.

Couch Grass.

The following is from a correspondent of the Yankee Farmer.

Sir—In the fall of 1839, it was recommended in your paper to kill *Couch Grass* by ploughing the ground late in the season, and expose the roots to the action of the frosts, by which their vitality would be destroyed. This advice was again repeated in your editorial remarks in the fall of 1840. But my experience shows me, that late ploughing will not kill *Couch*, or *Twitch Grass*, as it is sometimes called.—Soon after that notice was published I turned over by ploughing, just before winter set in, a piece of ground which was very much infested by this grass. It was green sward in the spring of that year, and was ploughed and planted with Indian corn; and at weeding time, this grass so completely took possession of the ground, that the rows of corn could hardly be seen, and my neighbors inquired what kind of grain was sown there. Intending this land for turnips the next season, I turned this over by the plough, as before stated; and what was the result? Not a root of the grass was killed, and it appeared in full vigor in 1840, and the field looked as green as if covered with a crop of rye. What was then to be done? This would be a troublesome tenant with my turnips, and having the advantage of prior possession, and firmer hold of the soil, would contend strongly, and perhaps successfully against the young turnip plants, and make the chance for a small crop, or a good crop, to say the least, rather doubtful? I then determined to extirpate it, root and branch, which was accomplished in the following manner:—The ground was ploughed and harrowed, and then my men followed with their rakes, and raked out the roots of the grass into heaps which were afterwards carted into the hog-yard; and this was done three times before sowing my turnips; and this so completely destroyed it, that scarcely a root appeared in the subsequent cultivation.

An old Colony Farmer.

Plymouth Co. January, 1840.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Education of Farmers' Children--No. 3.

Messrs. Editors—I have spoken of the *useful* part of education, as it either *directly* or indirectly influences the mind. I have taken a rather extended education for the general standard, because we are so liable to fall below than exceed the standard, whatever it may be. I wish now to consider the real object of education, the *developing*, *exercising*, *training* the powers of the mind. It is not so much the mere knowledge itself, valuable as that is in various respects, as it is the fitting of the mind for the business and duties of life. Of arithmetic, only a few rules find application in the business of the farmer and of most men; but who would desire his son to study only these rules while the others have a far greater *educating* power upon the mind. Indeed, if we contemplate only these subjects which will have a direct application and be directly practicable upon the farm, they will be found very few, and the influence of education exceedingly trifling, as the time taken to obtain it must be very short. Indeed, of what benefit will be much acquaintance with the art of *reading*, if *only utility* is to be studied in all our reading; if only there must be a direct employment of the knowledge on the farm. By such an education the mind must be left almost untouched. It will be rude and unpolished in its thoughts, low and common in its language; it will be left under the control of the animal nature chiefly; it will have only coarse views and notions of morality and religion, and of responsibility and obligation, it will be more subject to the power of temptation, and more easily seduced into the ways and works of folly and wickedness; or, it must be preserved from vice and crime by the fear of punishment and the strong arm of power, and not by those ennobling moral principles which are suited to our nature and circumstances.

The young farmer needs this cultivation of mind, this training of the intellect which education gives to prepare him for reading, and all the benefits of that knowledge which now fills the world. A taste for reading is as much made and acquired as a taste for any thing. The untutored mind can have no relish for it, unless it is for the marvellous; the curiosity must be excited, or no motive will be presented to the mind little trained by culture.

The young farmer needs this cultivation too, that he may have an inducement to employ his mind daily, or often, upon books. The great improvement of mind is made by reading regularly for a short period every day. The instances of this, though far too rare, are abundant to show the great consequence. "*Great effects from little causes,*" is the rule of Providence, and ought to be the motto for action. *The diligent hand maketh rich*, in whatsoever it undertakes.

The young farmer needs this cultivation also, that he may have some just estimate of himself and have more influence in the world. There must be superior wisdom in him that guides others. Trick and planning and wiles may succeed perhaps for a time; but all such arts must fail in the end because the ignorance will be disclosed, or the superior wisdom of others will be discerned. Even good common sense, that best of all human endowments of the intellect, must have knowledge and principles to exercise its power. Tact cannot operate without some materials to act upon and to work with.

The young farmer needs this cultivation also, that he may have some adequate notions of the necessity and advantage of education and moral principles in a free community, and may labor for the wider and more general extension of knowledge and virtue. Standing as the very bone and sinew of society, he must have the strength and power which will sustain the interests of society. For this end, education in its general meaning, the training of the mind and heart, is the grand means.

I have spoken of the wants of the young farmer in these several respects, for their bearing upon the main object of those papers, that the interests of the farmer suffer from the too limited education of his sons compared with that of his daughters. I have already said that I would not diminish the one, but increase the other. These views are not new indeed to many intelligent farmers, but they need to be diffused over the community. They cannot be fully appreciated without ensuring correspondent action.

I was about to enjoin some views upon the ornamental, as connected with the education of our children, but must defer them to another time. D. C.

March, 1841.

Sugar Beets.

Messrs. Editors—Agricultural chemistry may indeed cavil at the supposed value of Sugar Beets as food for animals; but the results which nature gives, clearly prove that there are some wonder working secrets in vegetable physiology, which science has not yet discovered.

A neighbor of mine, who is a first rate gardener, told me that he had raised 60 bushels of Sugar Beets last year on an incredible small space of ground in his garden. I asked him which was the most profitable, corn or sugar beets. He replied, both. I then named potatoes, when he burst out into a horse laugh, and said that he could raise ten bushels of beets easier than one of potatoes, and that his cow gave more milk when fed on beets. Added to this, he said that potatoes wanted digging, and that, too, by daylight, in short and often wet days; but that any quantity of sugar beets could be plucked and housed in a single clear evening, and that the trouble of securing the two crops was also ten to one in favor of beets.

SENECA.

Seneca co., March 14, 1841.

Gardening for April.

The weather during the past month has been so wintery that but little could be done in the garden except with hot-beds. No time should be lost this month, when the weather will allow, in commencing the operations of spring. Manure can best be carried on when the ground is frozen. Prune or trim fruit trees and bushes; repair espaliers, and procure new stakes for raspberry bushes, &c. Dress asparagus and rhubarb beds, and carry off, or burn all litter and rubbish. As soon as the ground is in good order, select and prepare the best apartments for early planting, and begin to plant or sow the more hardy vegetables.

Onion sets should be planted, and Peas, Lettuce, Spinage, Parsnip and Salsify seeds sown as soon as possible. Towards the latter part of the month, (earlier in Ohio and other States south of this) sow seeds of Carrot, Beet, Onion, and plant English Beans and early Potatoes; and, if not sown in a hot-bed, sow Cabbage, Cauliflower, Broccoli Tomato Pepper, Celery, &c. on a warm border where they can be covered with mats in time of frosts.

In Ohio, and wherever danger from frost is not apprehended, most kinds of garden seeds are sown early this month; but in this state, severe frosts sometimes occur as late as the 1st week in May, and tender plants must not be exposed till after that time. It will then be time to sow Cucumber, Melon, Squash, Pumpkin, Beans, Corn, Radish, Turnip, &c.; also, most kinds of herb and flower seeds. For remarks on sowing flower seeds, see Vol. 1, P. 56.

*** Ill health of Mr. Bateham must be an apology for the brevity of the remarks under this head.

Flowers in England.

From the Gardener's Chronicle of "Feb. 6, 1841," published in London, and edited (in part) by Professor Lindley, we make the following extracts:—

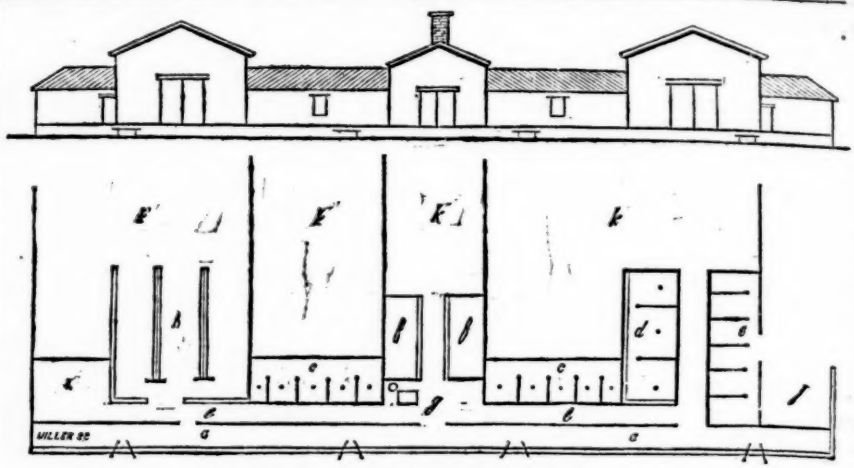
"*Pentlandia miniata*, a pretty bulbous plant from Cusco in Peru, allied to *Pancratium* and *Narcissus*, produces its clear scarlet flowers readily, and grows very freely."

"*Geranium rubifolium*. The erect habit of this plant, and its large flowers distinguish it from *G. nepalense*. It is a neat hardy perennial, scarcely exceeding a foot in height. It should be planted in light soil, or on rock work, as it is destroyed by the wet in winter. It flowers in July and August; and may be increased by dividing the roots when in a dormant state, or by seeds, which are produced freely, but the seedling will not flower before the second season. It was raised in the garden of the Horticulturnl Society, from Himalayan seeds presented by Dr. Royle in May 1839."

"*Dahlias*. A correspondent of the *Florticultural Magazine*, gives a long list of Prize Dahlias, from which we extract the following names of varieties, which according to this writer have gained more than fifty prizes at the shows for 1840.

Amato (Mountjoy's,) 79.
Argo (Widnall's,) 51.
Beauty of the plain (Sparry's,) 89.
Climax (Jeffery's,) 89.
Conductor (Widnall's,) 62.
Defiance (Cox's,) 67.
Duchess of Richmond, (Fowler's,) 68.
Essex Rival (Sorrell's,) 109.
Eva (Foster's,) 73.
Grace Darling (Dod's,) 115.
Hope (Neville's,) 105.
Lewisham Rival (Mend's,) 98.
Marquis of Lothian (Goodhall's,) 123.
Mary (Dod's,) 92.
Miss Johnstone (Willison's,) 87.
Ne Plus Ultra (Widnall's,) 92.
Rienzi (Widnall's,) 100.
Rival Sussex (Stanford's,) 109.
Springfield Rival (Inwood's,) 122.
Suffolk Hero (Girling's) 118.
Topaz (Girling's,) 77.
Unique (Ansell's,) 164.
Virgin Queen (Protheroe's,) 87."

"*Rhododendron maximum* grows much better in shade than in sunny situations; the foliage is often four times the usual size, and of a much finer green."



WM. R. SMITH'S FARMERY.

EXPLANATIONS.

a, Root cellar filled from the windows, 10 feet wide including walls. *b*, alley, boarded on the stable side, to the top of the mangers, four feet wide. *c*, stalls for the cows, &c., seven feet wide. *d*, ox stables, 8 feet wide. *e*, stalls for the horses, 5 feet wide. *f*, apartments for the *swill boys*. *g*, room for boiling, slicing roots, &c. *h*, sheep troughs, with racks communicating with the loft above. *i*, calf shed. *j*, wagon shed. *k*, barn yards. *Note.*—The upper part of the above cut is a front view, and the lower part a ground plan.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

MESSRS. EDITORS—It is very probable that the sketch of the barn above may strike many persons as being altogether too large and expensive for general use. This is doubtless true to a certain extent. Indeed my only hope is that *some* persons may profit by *some* things described, as I have no expectation but that glaring faults will be found in the plan. The inconvenience resulting from want of arrangement in our farm establishments is also great.

On many farms, having nearly or quite as many buildings as those described, the barns, &c. are so placed as to require much additional labor in passing from one to the other, and in the feeding of the animals.

Manures.—The man who at the present day neglects this important branch of labor, ought to be looked upon as laying the foundation for future poverty. Yet, I venture to say, that not one person in fifty who builds a barn, takes this subject into consideration, unless he may do so for the purpose of finding, as a friend of mine did, a *high knoll*, that the wash of his yards might give him no trouble.

Several methods have been proposed for saving and increasing manure, but on the whole, the plan adopted by Judge Buel seems to me best adapted to our circumstances. This consisted, as the readers of the "Genesee Farmer" will remember, in shaping the yard like a dish, leaving a margin of ten or twelve feet quite round the outside. With this, if straw be freely scattered weekly over the whole, and the litter from the stables wheeled out and spread, subject to the treading of the cattle, ten times the usual quantity will accumulate.

Again, it is the decision of some of our best New England farmers that pork making is a losing business, unless particular attention be paid to the compost heap. If this be true where great economy is used in feeding, what will be the fate of those, who, like myself, have no boiling apparatus nor economical hog yard?

In the sketch, I have placed this yard in the centre, where the excavation is the deepest.

Roots are justly coming into general use; but no systematic mode of feeding can be adopted unless they are accessible at all times. The long, narrow cellar exhibited in the plan, I think will be found very convenient. A sort of hopper with a grated bottom might be placed in the windows, into which the cart would be emptied.

The extreme wing at the right in the elevation is the carriage and tool house; to the left of this is the grain barn, say 32 feet front by 45 feet deep, leaving long, narrow bays on each side the floor. The straw stack is directly back of this, and on the west side of the yards.

The centre building has the corn crib and general store room, occupying two-thirds of its length from the back end, which communicates by a trap door with the boiling vats below.

The front is used for a shop, stairway, &c.

To the right and left of this are the hay lofts, which communicate with the feeding alleys below.

The large building on the left, corresponding with the grain barn, covers the sheep house—the plan of which may be thought somewhat whimsical. I know the strongest of these useful animals can *live*, though exposed to the storms of snow and sleet incidental to stack feeding; but it is susceptible of the clearest proof, that the expense of a comfortable shed is more than paid for by the increased quantity of wool and flesh. I propose that ranges of feeding troughs, four in number, should be placed in the basement, running from the alley to the back end. These are to consist of a rack, and manger at the bottom; the two outer ones single, and placed against the wall; the inner double, that is, to supply food from each side. The racks will communicate with the floor above, from which they are to be supplied with hay.

A narrow floor communicating with the doors shown in the figure, runs the whole depth of the building. On each side are the hay mows, which are raised seven feet above the level of the floor, that the racks may be accessible. In this way a large number of sheep can be provided for in a small space, and without waste of time or food. The small wing on the left is the poultry house.

In the stables two cows or oxen occupy the same stall. The ground floor should be paved, as being better in every particular than plank.

Macedon. WM. R. SMITH.

N. Y. Legislature--"Bill to promote Agriculture."

We stated last month that no report had been made in the Legislature on the petitions for the encouragement of agriculture; and such we still consider to be the fact, although some may think we are mistaken. It is true, Mr. Johnson, sometime in the early part of the session, *before the petitions from the Western part of the State were received*, offered what was called "A Bill to Promote Agriculture;" but its provisions were so meagre, and so unlike what the farmers asked for, that we were in hopes the committee, on the receipt of the petitions, would become ashamed of their *bantling*, and report something more in accordance with the petitions, and more worthy of the EMPIRE STATE. But a warm friend of the cause, who has spent some days at Albany, informs us that this bill is likely to become a law, without improvement, and without opposition.

'Half a loaf is better than no bread,' it is true; and the passage of this law will doubtless be a great benefit; but we shall certainly feel a degree of shame in announcing to the world that the great and wealthy State of New York has passed a law for the improvement of agriculture, and appropriated only $7000 per annum to the purpose.

The bill before the House provides that $7000 be appropriated annually for five years, in the ratio of $50 to each member of Assembly, and $600 to the State Society. When any County Society has raised by voluntary subscription any sum of money, the comptroller is authorized to pay an equal sum, provided it is not greater than the sum appropriated to that county. No mention is made of Commissioners.

It is proper to inform our readers that this bill was framed in answer to the petition of a few individuals about Albany—self-styled the N. Y. State Agricultural Society—who it will be seen, were careful to provide for their own interests. But, as yet, no notice has been taken of the numerous petitions which have been offered by the yeomanry of Western New York.

We have seen no account of any further action on the bill for the encouragement of Silk Culture. We hope the members of the Legislature will not disregard the wishes of their constituents and the interests of the State so much, as to neglect these matters till it is too late to secure their passage.

Horticultural Meeting.

Agreeable to the call published in our last No., a meeting was held in the Lecture Room of the Young Mens' Association in this city. Dr. Moses Long was called to the Chair, and H. M. Ward, Esq. appointed Secretary.

After some discussion, it was agreed to form an association to promote the interests of Horticulture, to be called the MONROE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY; giving to persons residing in other counties, the privilege of becoming members if they wish to do so.

On motion, a committee of five was appointed to prepare a constitution for the society, and report at the next meeting.

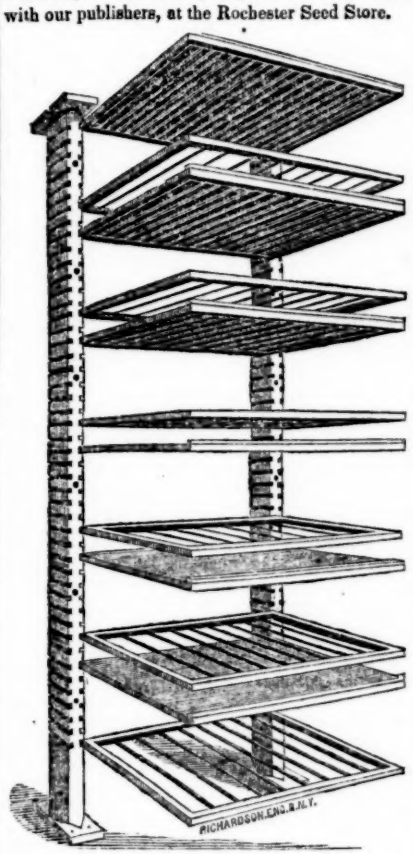
The following persons were nominated: Silas Cornell, S. O. Smith, H. M. Ward, P. Barry, Benj. Hill.

The meeting then adjourned to meet in the same place on Thursday, March 25, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

A meeting was held agreeable to the above adjournment, but not being so numerously attended as was anticipated, and the committee being unavoidably absent, it was thought proper to postpone the adoption of the constitution until the first Thursday (being the 6th) of May next. The meeting adjourned to meet on that day at the same place, at 2 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of organizing the society.

The friends of Horticulture in Monroe county, (and those who please from adjoining counties) are respectfully requested to attend.

According to our promise, and the request of several subscribers, we here give a description of the "Burlington Silk Frames," mentioned in our Feb. No.—The engraving and remarks below, render the subject quite plain. If any persons in this vicinity desire to obtain any of the frames, they can leave their orders with our publishers, at the Rochester Seed Store.



BURLINGTON SILK FRAME.

This simple yet complete apparatus for feeding Silk Worms, invented and patented by Edmund Morris of Burlington, N. J., has been found, after repeated trials to accomplish the following important objects.—

1. It secures the most thorough ventilation to all parts of the frame on which the worms are feeding, below as well as above, and obliges them of necessity, to clean themselves of their excrement and other rubbish.

2. That part of all former modes of feeding which requires *waiting* for the worms to mount upon fresh foliage in order to clean them, is entirely dispensed with; and though cleaning is never necessary, yet should the worms require changing, it is done almost instantly, a thousand at a time, and without the worm, being conscious of the change.

3. The whole apparatus is as portable as a quilting frame; and all the parts which require handling during the feeding season, are as portable as an umbrella, without being liable to breakage.

4. Ventilation and cleanliness are so perfectly accomplished, that disease seems out of the question, unless originating in the egg.

5. The age (from the spinning) of any number of cocoons, from one thousand up to a million, is identified to a day, and they are gathered with six times the facility of the hurdle system, at the same time coming out perfectly clean, and with but little waste of floss.

6. By using branches, cut down with a grass hook or scythe, it saves more than one half the usual expense of gathering foliage and feeding it out to the worms, and more of them are accommodated in the same space.

7. It is cheaper and more durable than the hurdles. All the purchaser is required to do after receiving his frames, is to put in a few nails to support his uprights, and to put straw into his spinning roofs, and the whole contrivance is complete and ready for use.

The vast superiority of this over all other fixtures for feeding silk worms, is such as to be apparent even to persons not acquainted with the rearing of them; while intelligent gentlemen, practically conversant with the business, have pronounced, without a single exception, that it fully accomplishes all that has been said above. It has been tried repeatedly and found successful in practice, and may be seen at the Burlington Filature, where persons intersted in the silk business are invited to examine into its merits. It rejects the hurdle system entirely, and is original in all its parts. A frame sufficient to feed 6,000 worms, may be seen at Jos. Leeds' U. S. Silk Agency, No. 2 Franklin Place, Philadelphia, the proprietor of which has been appointed agent for the sale of frames and rights, to whom, or to the patentee at Burlington, application may be made. An engraved view, with a full description, will be sent on application, post paid. Gentlemen about to erect cocooneries will find it highly important to examine the capabilities of this Frame, previous to erecting any other fixtures.

The most unqualified approbation has been awarded to this Frame by the numerous visitors who have examined it, and none have made any objection, or expressed a doubt of its capabilities. Many large cocooneries are now being fitted up with it, for the coming season, and others are building, in which no other fixtures will be used.

The Patentee proposes to manufacture and sell these Frames, or to dispose of the right to individuals to make them for their own use, in order to accommodate those who reside so far from this city as to make the cost of transportation too heavy a tax for them to purchase here. In either case, however, the purchaser should make his own uprights, as the freight would be costly. Each upright, 8 feet long and 6 inches wide, by 2 inches thick, contains 8 feet, costing about 10 cents for hemlock or pine—the expense for making grooves is about 6 cents for each upright. Ten of them will accommodate 54 frames, each 3 by 4 feet.

The price for a feeding frame and roof, calculated for the worms to spin in straw, will be 60 to 70 cents for the two—and this latter kind is greatly preferable to the lath roofs. The worms are remarkably fond of spinning in straw so arranged, the cocoons are gathered with equal facility, and come out perfectly clean, without waste of floss.

To those who prefer to make their own frames, the prices of rights are as follows:

For the right to make and use

50	frames	and	50	roofs	5 dollars.
100	"	"	"		10 "
300	"	"	"		20 "
500	"	"	"		30 "
1000	"	"	"		50 "

These frames can be manufactured by the Patentee at a cheaper rate than any individual can furnish them for himself, as machinery will be used for the purpose.

The proper size for the frames and roofs, is 3 by 4 feet, which will accommodate 1500 or more worms. The dimensions can be varied to order. The straw roofs are covered with muslin or thick pasteboard.

Application may be made to Edmund Morris, Burlington, N. J., or to Joseph Leeds, Agent for the Patentee, No. 2 Franklin Place, Philadelphia.

Agricultural Implements Wanted.

There is considerable demand for approved agricultural implements in this place; and if a good assortment were for sale here at moderate prices, the demand would soon be very great. But there are but a few kinds manufactured in this region, and the trouble and expense of obtaining them from the east, are so great that many will not be obtained from there. We would therefore invite some enterprising mechanic from the east—one who is familiar with the different approved implements of the day—and who has a little capital to invest, to come and establish a manufactory in this city. Here are the best of materials and facilities for the business, means of transportation in every direction, and the New Genesee Farmer to circulate intelligence all over the Western World. Now, who will come? Any communications on the subject, addressed to the publishers of this paper, postage paid, will receive attention.

Apparatus for Laboratories.

Professor Dewey informs us that the articles mentioned in another column for a "Cheap Laboratory," may perhaps be most easily obtained from Charles A. Spencer, Canastota, Madison Co., N. Y. Mr. S. will send a catalogue of prices to any person who will direct a letter, post paid, to him. From the catalogue such selection can be made as may be desired, and the order will be speedily attended to.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Castor Oil Beans--Ricinus.

The cultivators of the soil, and indeed all classes of citizens, have reason to rejoice that this invaluable medicinal seed, is likely to be turned to a very useful account in the domestic economy of every housekeeper. If there is any truth in the following statement taken from the Peoria (Ill.) press, the composition described below may serve the whole country as a substitute for sperm.

"An important discovery was made about ten years ago, by Mr. Isaac Smith, of Eastville, Northampton county, Va. which enabled him to render castor oil equal if not superior to the best sperm for burning in lamps, and for which he intended to take out a patent. This he never did, and permission has since been given to make the improvement known for the benefit of the public. The method of preparing the oil is, merely to mix with it spirits of turpentine, with which it readily combines; in proportion of one of the latter to four of the former.

"Now, since sperm oil is becoming scarcer, and the demand for it increases, the citizens of the west especially will find it to their interest to take advantage of the knowledge of this composition.

"As to its excellence, there is but one opinion among those who have tried it. A lamp filled with this composition will burn four or five hours without the slightest appearance of crust upon the wick, and on extinguishing the flame, there is no fire remaining in the wick, as is generally the case with sperm oil, except of the very best quality—indeed, in the extinguishing and re-lighting a lamp of this oil, there is a strong similarity to that of a gas light. But it burns perfectly free from smoke or the least degree of offensive smell—emits a clear and powerful light, and never congeals in the coldest weather."

The main difficulty experienced by those who have undertaken to cultivate the castor bean in a small way in this latitude, has arisen from a want of knowledge how to purify the newly expressed oil, so as to prevent its becoming very rancid and unfit for use. Perhaps a plain and concise explanation of this process which has long been held as an important secret by the manufacturers of pure "*Oleum Ricini*" may be of service to some of your numerous readers.

This oil is extracted from the bean either by soaking it in boiling water and then subjecting it to a weighty pressure; or by bruising the seed and expressing the oil cold. The latter is called cold expressed, and the former hot expressed oil, in the market. Most of the castor oil consumed in the United States is imported from the West Indies. This, as well as a thousand other articles sent to us from abroad, ought to be produced at home and largely exported. Good oil is now worth by the quantity in New York one dollar and thirty-eight cents a gallon, which can be obtained from a bushel of beans. Land well adapted to their growth, and properly cultivated, will yield in this latitude from twenty-five to thirty-five bushels to the acre. The expense of growing and harvesting does not greatly exceed that of an acre of corn. The press and other machinery used for the manufacture of linseed oil will answer very well for making castor oil. The proneness of this oil, and indeed of all fixed vegetable oils, to become rancid, arises mainly from the mucilage which is intimately blended with it when expressed. Mucilage is quite insoluble in boiling water, hence if we put crude oil and water together in the proportion of five quarts of water to four gallons of oil and gradually heat them over a moderate fire, the mucilage will rise to the surface in a thick scum. All of this should be carefully removed with a skimmer into a vessel for further purification. The skimming should be continued during ebulition as long as any scum arises. The boiling should be kept up until all the water is evaporated, when the oil should be removed from over the fire, otherwise it will burn. It should then be put up in clean tight bottles or casks, and is ready for market. Other oils may be purified in the same way.

There are but few farmers who could not find room and time to cultivate an acre or two of the castor bean without interfering materially with their other farming operations. It should be planted on a warm, rich soil, and as early in the spring as can be done and escape frosts. The hills and rows ought to be about four feet apart. In warmer climates they are placed five feet asunder, because the plants grow much larger than they will in Western New York.

There is an establishment erected at Peoria, for the manufacture of castor oil, the proprietors of which offer to contract for all the beans they can obtain at one dollar a bushel. May the best success attend the enterprise. Yours truly, D. L.

Buffalo, March, 1841.

Query.—Will the Ricinus thrive and produce seed to advantage, in as cold a climate as of this State?—Eds.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Cheap Laboratory.

Messrs. Editors:—As you have not given a reply to the question on the *articles and cost of apparatus for a cheap laboratory such as a farmer would need*, I submit the following. It is difficult indeed to give any very definite statement, because the object designed to be accomplished by the apparatus is not stated. I suppose, however, that the mere examination of soils, as the analysis is rather difficult, long, and perplexing, is not the object. Should that alone be the object, a few crucibles, tumblers, wine glasses, plates and vials, with tongs for handling the crucibles, and scales for weighing accurately to half a grain, would be necessary, and cost two or three dollars. To these should be added several small bottles of chemical tests, such as acids, alkalies, nitrate of silver, oxalate of potash or ammonia, which cost three dollars more, and for the whole, $6 00

For General Illustrations of Chemistry.

Pyrometer to show expansion of solids,	4 00
2 Bolt heads " " liquids, 5s	1 25
6 Florence Flasks for boiling liquids, 6d	37
Wires for showing conduction of caloric,	1 00
2 Air Thermometers, 20c, and 1 Farenheit, $3,	3 20
Pair of Tin Mirrors for reflecting caloric,	4 50
Ball for do 4s, and Air Thermometer, 4s,	1 00
3 feet of Glass rods, 18d, and Iron stand and rings, $2,	2 18
Argand's lamp $2 50, and spirit lamp 50c,	3 00
Fire pump or air condensing Fire Engine,	1 00
2 pint Retorts 6s, and 2 half pints 4s,	1 25
1 Gas bottle $1, and Tin pipe to conduct gas 4s,	1 50
Gun barrel for procuring oxygen,	1 00
Or an Iron bottle for the same,	2 00
And 6 feet lead pipe to conduct it,	50
1 pint receiver closed at top, or large tumbler,	37
1 quart receiver with ground stopple to burn Iron wire in oxygen,	1 25
Small gazometer to hold oxygen,	3 00
Or two small gazometers in a small cistern to hold oxygen and hydrogen,	4 00
And compound Blow-pipe for the brilliant experiments,	4 00
Tin pipe for burning stream of hydrogen,	50
And 2 glass tubes for musical tones,	75
Iron turnings for hydrogen,	25
Bottles of acids and alkalies,	2 00

The preceding articles would enable a man of some experience, to perform a great many experiments.—Most of the articles wear out with use, and some break easily. Some knowledge of chemistry will enable the enquirer to select from the preceding such articles as would be best suited to his object. The whole amounts to less than fifty dollars. A good selection might be made for thirty dollars. I have been willing on this account to give the articles more numerous than may be desired.

If it is wished to add experiments in Galvanism, I shall be happy to give any information in my power. It is ardently to be desired that some of our independent farmers might succeed in establishing small laboratories, and in exhibiting the more common and general parts of chemical knowledge. C. DEWEY.

March, 1841.

Hints to Western Emigrants.

Drink cold tea, or buttermilk diluted with water, but no whiskey. Go out of your ploughed and newly cleared fields before the sun is down, and the miarmi begins to rise, and keep in doors in the morning until the sun has dispersed the same.

In hot weather make a fire in your house every evening, to dry and cleanse the air. For ordinary medicine, drink strong boneset tea; if very bilious, take Gregory's Pills, (not the spurious sort,) they contain antimony, but no calomel.

Few and simple as are the above directions, had they been strictly followed, many lives might have been saved, and hundreds of congestive fevers prevented.

The history of deaths by fever at the west, is but a combined detail of gross neglect and still grosser ignorance. Some men think that as long as they have a morbid appetite to eat, they have no need of medicine or a physician; and when a physician is called, he is looked upon as a magician whose office it is to raise the dead.

I once asked a physician how one of his patients got along. He is very sick said he, but he will not die, for his wife is a better physician than I am, and all of a nurse to boot. I asked in relation to another patient. He is not dangerously sick, said he, but I fear they will kill him—dont you think they were trying to feed him toasted cheese and fried cake.

GENESEE.

From the Albany Cultivator.

N. YORK STATE AG. SOCIETY.

Albany, Feb. 10, 1841.

Pursuant to public notice, the New York State Agricultural Society met at Knickerbocker Hall at Albany, this day at 11 o'clock A. M. The President being absent, Alexander Walsh, Esq., one of the Vice Presidents, took the chair, and Jesse Buel was appointed Secretary pro tem. A quorum being present, the minutes of the last meeting were read. The Report of the Treasurer, C. N. Bement, Esq., was then received, read, and accepted.

The Constitution of the Society being called for, was read, when several amendments were proposed by Messrs. Tucker, Nott and Fuller, which, after discussion, were adopted, and the revised Constitution directed to be published as follows:—

Constitution of the N. Y. State Ag. Society.

As Amended Feb. 10, 1841.

The style of this society shall be "The New York State Agricultural Society;" its objects shall be to improve the condition of agriculture, horticulture, and the household arts.

Sec 1. The society shall consist of such citizens of the State as shall signify, in writing, their wish to become members, and shall pay on subscribing not less than one dollar, and also of honorary and corresponding members.

The presidents of county agricultural societies, or a delegate from each, shall ex-officio be members of this society.

The payment of fifty dollars or more shall constitute a member for life, and shall exempt the donor from annual contributions.

Sec. 2. The officers of the society shall consist of a president, eight vice presidents, one to be located in each Senate District; a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary a treasurer, an executive committee, to consist of the officers above named and five additional members, of whom three shall form a quorum, and a general committee, the members of which shall be located in the several counties, and be equal to the representatives in the house of assembly.

Sec. 3. The recording secretary shall keep the minutes of the society.

The corresponding secretary shall carry on a correspondence with other societies, with individuals and with the general committee, in furtherance of the objects of the society.

The treasurer shall keep the funds of the society, and disburse them on the order of the president or a vice president, countersigned by the recording secretary; and shall make a report of the receipts and expenditures at the annual meeting in January.

The executive committee shall take charge of and distribute or preserve all seeds, plants, books, models, &c., which may be transmitted to the society; and shall also have the charge of all communications, designed or calculated for publication, and so far as they may deem expedient, shall collect, arrange and publish the same in such manner and form as they shall deem best calculated to promote the objects of the society.

The general committee are charged with the interests of the society in the counties in which they shall respectively reside, and will constitute a medium of communication between the executive committee and the remote members of the society.

Sec. 4. There shall be an annual meeting of the society on the third Wednesday in January, in the city of Albany, at which time all the officers shall be elected by a plurality of votes and by ballot, with exception of the general committee for the counties which may be appointed by the executive committee, who shall have power to fill any vacancies which may occur in the officers of the society during the year. Extra meetings may be convoked by the executive committee. Fifteen members shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 5. The society shall hold an annual cattle show and fair at such time and place as shall be designated by the executive committee.

Sec. 6. This constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members attending any annual meeting.

A committee of fifteen was appointed to nominate officers of the society for the ensuing year, to report to a meeting to be held at the Senate Chamber, at 3 o'clock, P. M. to-morrow. Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Feb. 10, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

Met pursuant to adjournment, for the purpose of complying with the invitation of EZRA P. PRENTICE, Esq., to visit Mount Hope Farm, near this city, to view the beautiful and extensive herd of Improved Short Horns owned by Mr. P. The company, some fifteen or twenty in number, after an examination of the Short Horns and South Down sheep at Mount Hope, with which they were highly pleased, were taken by Mr. Prentice to Mr. Corning's farm, where they had an opportunity of viewing a portion of the Hereford cattle and Cotswold sheep imported by Messrs. Corning and Sotham the past season.

Senate Chamber, Feb. 11, 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

Met pursuant to adjournment, H. D. GROVE, Esq., one of the vice presidents, in the chair. The committee appointed to nominate officers, made their report, which was read and accepted; and the following gentlemen were unanimously elected officers of the society for the ensuing year:—

JOEL. B. NOTT, of Albany, President.

Vice Presidents.

1st district, JEROMUS JOHNSON, of Kings.
2d " ROBERT DENNISTON, of Orange.
3d " CALEB N. BEMENT, of Albany.
4th " EDWARD C. DELEVAN, of Saratoga.
5th " BENJAMIN P. JOHNSON, of Oneida.
6th " LEWIS A MORRELL, of Tompkins.
7th " WILLIS GAYLORD, of Onondaga.
8th " T. C. PETERS, of Genesee.

Additional Members of the Executive Committee.

ALEXANDER WALSH, of Rensselaer,
GEORGE VAIL, of "
HENRY D. GROVE, of "
A. L. LINN, of Schenectady.
JOHN D. MCINTYRE, of Albany.

HENRY S. RANDALL, of Cortland, Cor. Sec'y.
EZRA P. PRENTICE, of Albany, Treasurer.
LUTHER TUCKER, of Albany, Recording Sec'y.

The following resolution was introduced by J. J. VIELE, Esq., of Rensselaer.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare, and present, a memorial to the Legislature, now in session, praying for an appropriation of $7,000 annually, for the benefit of agriculture, to be distributed to the several County Agricultural Societies in the ratio of $50 to each member of Assembly, and the sum of $600 to the State Agricultural Society; the money to be paid to the several Societies when they shall have raised an equal sum.

After an animated and interesting discussion, in which Messrs. VIELE, JOHNSON, ROOT, FULLER, and others, took part, the resolution was unanimously adopted, and Messrs. VIELE, TUCKER, BEMENT, MC INTYRE and VAN BERGEN, were appointed a committee to memorialize the Legislature for the purpose expressed in the resolution.

Several Reports were received from Committees appointed at the last meeting, to report on various matters of practical agriculture, which will be published hereafter.

On motion of C. N. BEMENT, Esq., it was

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be requested to procure reports from different members of the Society, on the following subjects, to be presented at the semi-annual meeting.

1. On the most approved method of stall feeding oxen and other neat cattle.

2. On converting green crops and other vegetable matters into manure.

3. On the best method of increasing manure and forming a compost.

4. On the proper time to cut Timothy and other grasses, and the most approved method of curing the same.

5. On the comparative economy of employing oxen and horses in the usual business of the farm.

6. On the comparative economy of potatoes, ruta baga, carrots or beets, as food for cattle, sheep, and swine.

7. On the relative value of apples as food for swine, or other domestic animals, compared with making them into cider.

8. On the best means of eradicating Canada thistles.

A Resolution was adopted requesting the President elect to deliver an Address in the Assembly Chamber, in furtherance of the objects of the Society, on the evening of the 23d inst.

Assembly Chamber, Feb. 23, 1841.

The Society met pursuant to adjournment at 7 o'clock, P. M. The Hon. JEREMIAH JOHNSON, Vice President from the first District, took the chair and called the Society to order, when the President, J. B. NOTT, Esq., delivered an address, replete with eloquence and instruction, which was listened to by a large and attentive audience with great satisfaction. The thanks of the society were tendered to Mr. NOTT, and a copy of his address solicited for publication.

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Meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee of the New York State Agricultural Society, met at the office of the Cultivator, Albany, on the 23d of February—the President of the Society in the Chair. A letter was read from P. B. JOHNSON, Esq. Vice President, expressing his regret that he should not be able to attend the meeting. Mr. J. says—"It will afford me great pleasure to communicate with you at all times in relation to the interests of the Society, and to unite with the officers in such measures as shall be best calculated to promote the interests of Agriculture in our State. I hope something will be done in aid of our objects by the Legislature; and could County Societies be established and sustained, it appears to me that great good will result."

A letter was also read from Col. H. S. RANDALL, Cor. Sec'y., accepting the office, and assuring the committee that he will devote himself zealously and untiringly to the cause. He says—"I wish you would express to the committee the deep regret I feel in not being able to meet them. Say to them, that as one of their body, were I present, I would counsel *action*,—decided energetic ACTION. A mere formal organization—a nominal Society merely, is useless—nay, the next thing to ridiculous; and unless I greatly mistake the signs of the times, effort on our part will be met with more of corresponding spirit, than it has been in preceding years."

After the appointment of a part of the County Committees, the business was postponed, and a committee appointed to make the necessary inquiries and report suitable names at the next meeting.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Tucker, Prentice, and McIntyre, was appointed to report a code of By-Laws, and Regulations for the better management of the affairs of the Society.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1. That the Executive Committee will hold regular monthly meetings on the *Third* WEDNESDAY of each month, at the room No 7, Exchange Building, Albany, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

2. That to enable this Society to carry into effect the great objects of its formation, it is necessary to raise the sum of $1,500, in addition to the aid expected from the State.

3. That as one means of increasing the funds of the Society, the Corresponding Secretary address a circular letter to the members of the Executive and General Committees, urging upon them the necessity of immediate and persevering personal exertion to increase the number of both life and annual members of the Society.

4. That the Recording Secretary prepare and report at the next meeting, a correct roll of the members, specifying those who have paid their annual dues, and the sums due from those in arrears.

5. That the Executive Committee will decide upon the place of holding their First Exhibition and Fair, at their regular meeting in April; and that a committee of nine be appointed to report on the Premium List, so far as practicable at the March meeting. The committee consists of Messrs. McIntyre, Walsh, Bement, Randall, B. P. Johnston, Grove, Gaylord, Morrell, and Peters; and it is expected they will report individually, their views in relation to the objects which should be made subjects for premiums.

Treatment of Peach Trees.

A respected correspondent in the State of Ohio, says: "Two years ago last fall, I scalded a part of my peach trees. On removing some of the soil, the worms were exposed in various positions; and all the trees that I scalded at that time, were found to be free from worms in the spring.

"Some that were scalded in the spring however, were not benefitted. The earth was left round the tree so that the boiling water stood *above* the part affected, and proved of no use.

"Soap suds and weak ley, have sensibly benefitted the trees; and from a slight experience I have reason to hope that brine will be found useful.

"Among the useless remedies tried, I will name *boring and plugging with sulphur.*

"Soap suds acts like a charm on healthy peach trees; but on such as have the *yellows*, it is like food in the stomach of a dyspeptic." †

From the Journal of the American Silk Society.

Silk Culture.

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF SILK WORMS.

GIDEON B. SMITH, ESQ. *Sir*,—In June last I tried an experiment with several varieties of cocoons, which may be interesting to the numerous readers of the Silk Journal. The silk worms were carefully fed and were perfectly healthy. I intended them for obtaining eggs for the year 1841, and was anxious to ascertain, by my own experience, which are the best varieties. The cocoons were carefully reeled on the Piedmontese reel, and the silk weighed with a small copper scales.

8 oz. of mammoth white cocoons, floss on, chrysalids not killed, in number 141, yielded 360 grains of reeled silk.

8 oz. of pure white pea-nut cocoons, floss on, in number 134, gave 359 grains of reeled silk.

8 oz. of various colored pea-nut cocoons, floss on, in number 148, gave 329 grains of reeled silk.

8 oz. of mammoth sulphur cocoons, floss on, in number 134, gave 327 grains of reeled silk.

I have not succeeded in keeping silk worm eggs in an ice-house, to hatch successive crops through the summer. Last winter I sent a quantity of mammoth sulphur silk worms to an ice house in Newbern.—They were put up in a box, in the manner recommended by the Messrs. Carsons. In July, I had the box brought down, and spread the eggs on a feeding shelf—not one of them hatched out. I am informed the ice house was not filled until March; it is probable the hot weather in February started the hatching process, and then putting them on ice, in March, destroyed their vitality. Silk worm eggs intended for a succession of crops, in this latitude, should be put into the ice house in December and January.

I have raised about 30,000 multicaulis mulberry trees this year, for feeding silk worms, and intend to give the silk business a fair trial before I give it up.—My cocoonery is 120 feet by 20, a single story. I cannot perceive why the raising of silk should not be as profitable in the United States as it is in France and Italy.

I am, very respectfully, your obd't servt.
JAMES MANNEY.

Beaufort, N. C., Dec. 14, 184.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Pleasures and Profits of Agriculture.

MESSRS. EDITORS—in the last number of the Genesee Farmer the enquiry is made, whether Agriculture can be made profitable? *Mr. Colman* answers this question in the affirmative, so far as New England is concerned; but the inquiry still remains, what are the profits of agriculture in western New York, or rather, what *may be* the profits under a correct system of cultivation? The wealth of the farmer consists in the productive power of his soil, rather than in the extent of his territory. The farmer who possesses 100 or 1000 acres of unproductive land may be poor. The farmer who possesses 10 acres of land with power and skill to manage and cultivate it so as to supply all his wants, is rich.

An increased fertility of the soil is a source of profit too generally overlooked by the farmer. The great defect in our agriculture, so far as my knowledge extends, is want of system. Any system which shall embrace the two great principles of agriculture, namely, a careful attention to the making and application of manure, and a judicious rotation of crops, will ensure success. A general attention to these great principles would raise Western New York, with a soil naturally productive, to the very summit of agricultural prosperity, if at the same time proper attention be paid to the rearing the best breeds of animals. Of the system or course of rotation the best adapted to his soil and his circumstances, the farmer must be his own judge. An acre of good corn land, well manured and properly cultivated, will produce 80 bushels of corn in a season. After the corn crop is taken off, this acre will produce 20 bushels of wheat. If this acre shall be thoroughly stocked with clover and well plastered, and for two years pastured with cows and hogs, with what manure may be made from the land, it will completely preserve the fertility of the soil, and even increase it. Here we have a four year's course, which will most assuredly preserve the fertility of the soil. But the great question remains to be answered. What will be the result of this system, as it respects profit and loss? An answer to this inquiry must determine the course of the farmer. Two acres of clover on rich land will pasture two cows and four hogs in the best manner, through the season. The acre of corn stalks and the acre of wheat straw, with 40 bushels of corn in the ear, ground and fed with the stalks and the straw, will winter the cows in the best possible manner. Fifteen bushels of corn ground with the cob, and making about 22 bushels of rich provender—this fed to each of the four hogs together with the slops from the cows, will make 300 lbs. of pork, or more—this would give 1200 lbs. pork at $5 per cwt, would be $60. The produce from the two cows in butter and cheese, or some of both, cannot be less than $20 each, making $40 for the two. The whole value of pork and dairy produce is $100; the value of wheat from the acre, at one dollar per bushel is $20—making the whole value of the produce of four acres $120; $50 will give one dollar for each day's labor, and pay all the necessary expenses, leaving $70, or the interest of $1000 for the use of four acres for one season, and the soil improving at least five per cent. per annum. Ten acres of good land cultivated after this manner, would afford a family of five persons all the necessaries of life. Forty acres cultivated on this plan will pay the interest of $10,000 annually, without any diminution of capital.

However visionary the results of this system may appear to many, it is founded on facts and principles which every intelligent farmer knows to be correct, and can most assuredly be realized by careful and persevering attention. I do not pretend that this system is the best which can be devised; there is such a variety of soil, climate and circumstances, as renders it impossible to devise any system which shall suit them all. If any of your numerous correspondents will point out the defects of this system, or devise and recommend any other which shall be more profitable, or which shall do more to simplify the subject of agriculture and bring it within the means of all our common farmers, he will deserve well of his country, and be entitled to the character of a public benefactor.

Thus far I have written upon the profits of agriculture. So far as respects the pleasures of agriculture I would just observe, that the man who has a mind to adopt a system of husbandry embracing all its great principles, will find an employment more conducive to the health of his body and the peace of his mind, than any other; and, while he stands upon his own soil, and sees a variety of vegetable productions springing up and coming to maturity around him, cultivated by his own hand, if his heart is susceptible of grateful emotions, he will "look through nature up to nature's God," and adore that power that scatters blessings around him in such pleasing variety and in such profuse abundance. JESSE IVES.

Homer, March 12th, 1841.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

On Cattle.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Having spent some time this spring in Genesee county for the purpose of purchasing cattle for the *Eastern Market*, and seeing an ardent desire prevailing among a considerable portion of your intelligent and enterprising farmers of improving their present stocks of cattle, I propose giving some general hints upon that subject—more especially to those however, who breed for the Eastern Market. For steers and working oxen, I prefer the Devon's to any other breed; as their fine horns and beautiful *red color* united with their quick, graceful motions, give those of the same weight, over other breeds, a price varying from $10 to $40 per pair more.

For cows, the Durhams stand unrivalled for their superior milking qualities; yet when we consider their color and coarseness of flesh and the quantity of food consumed, they are not so much beyond the Holderness, or a cross of the Durham and Devon and Holderness, which suit purchasers generally full as well as the Durham. I have frequently sold a Cherry Red cow when driving, for full as much as I could a Durham, where the blood of the Devon was evidently to be seen, from the fine color and horns taking the fancy of the purchaser. But I would not by any means wish to be understood to rank the Devon or Holderness in the same class with the Durham, but would either advise the cross, or the pure Durhams for cows. I would also suggest the evil which results from the too frequent practice of many of your farmers in over-feeding their bulls of pure bloods, of either kind mentioned, with grain, &c. &c., in order to make a great show to their neighbors, in the size of the animal, and also in publishing the weight, at 6, 12 and 18 months old, which is proof sufficient that they are not proper animals for sires. More especially where this practice has been persevered in for some two or three generations. It is generally known that the offspring of healthy men, who live and wade in luxury, hand down to their posterity a curse which will follow them through life, and which cannot be easily shaken off; and most certainly where two or three generations follow the practice of their ancestors, their bodily powers sinking into numerous complaints incident to the human family. So with the brute creation. And, depend upon it, if you rear calves from bulls that have had their digestive organs distended, the same will be handed down, and if not fed with the same bountiful hand, such stock will sink into comparative insignificance.

It would be much better for those raising stock to see that their bulls should be fed well; that is, have as much good hay as they wish to eat, and kept as the old saying is, "*heart whole.*" A few roots in winter, say given as often as once a week, would be advantageous perhaps, and advisable, as in winter all animals like a change from dry hay, making them most "hearty."

I noticed a small stock of very fine Devons in Sheldon, in this county: also a fine Devon bull, near Le Roy: also a fine herd of Durhams, the property of a Mr. Remsen, near Alexander, and the very fine Devon bull, *Red Jacket*, near Batavia, the property of a Mr. Cone, lately from Connecticut.

All the above named cattle I would particularly recommend to the farmers of Genesee county, as they have not, I think, been over-fed, any of them sufficiently to injure their stock. Mr. Cone assured me he had let his bull run with his other stock, none of which had had any food but hay and straw. This is the best way to produce fine stock. For what farmer is there that can feed and nurse his whole stock? and what farmer is there that wishes any stock of the kinds mentioned, but that will improve his old stock, on the same keeping? Rest assured that good blood will improve your stock, but great feed to particular animals should be condemned.

The Devons have proved themselves to the particular favorable attention of the farmers generally, (excepting, however, those who keep dairies,) for hardy constitution, standing the long winters, and keeping as well as any other stock on the same feed.

Yours,
AN EASTERN DROVER.

Col. Sawyer's Berkshires.

To the Editors of the New Genesee Farmer:

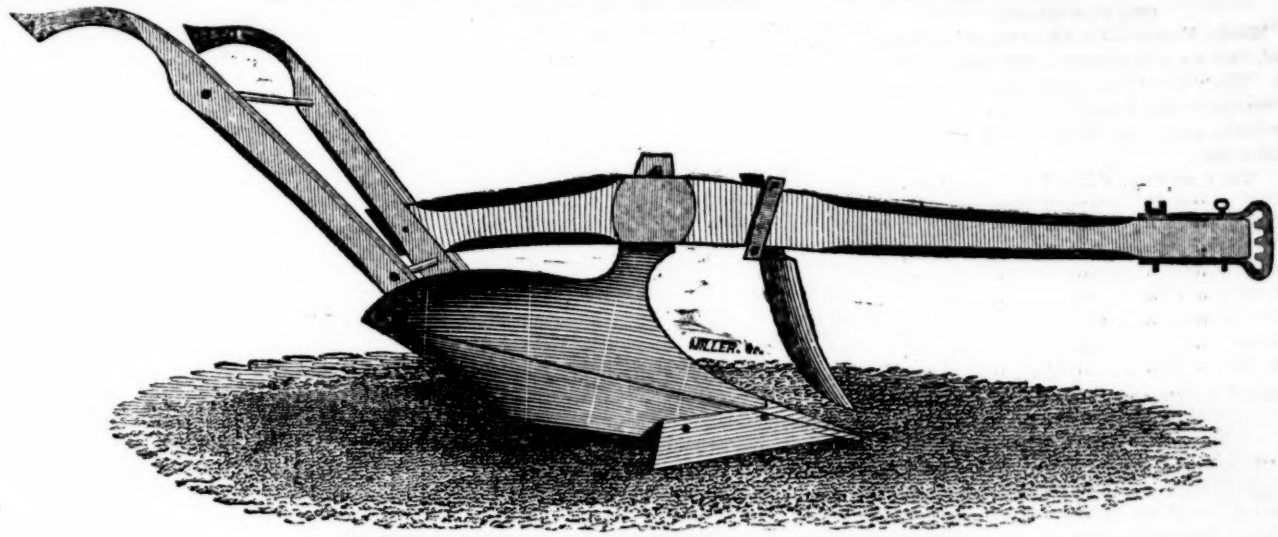
In the last No. of your paper, (page 44,) E. Cornell asks, if the portraits given of Col. Sawyer's Berkshire pigs are *correct likenesses?*

In my opinion they are not correct likenesses. The pictures of the two boars are much *better* likenesses than those of the sows, but are not exact. The portraits of the sows, although intended, no doubt, to be faithful copies of the almost perfect animals they purport to represent, I feel bound to say, are mere "fancy's sketches." To show the defects of the pictures, would require more time and space than I can now command; but the simplest observer will at once detect the want of symmetry, and of true anatomical, as well as (if I may so use the expression in this view of it) *architectural* proportions belonging to this prince of swine, the "Improved Berkshire" pig.

I was in Rochester a few days since, and paid a visit to Col. Sawyer's piggery, where I saw some very perfect specimens of thorough bred, and crosses of the Berkshire. His imported sow, now about two years old, and his boar "Young Prince," from the piggery of Mr. A. B. Allen, are probably as perfect specimens of the middle sized Berkshires as can be found in the country; and can only be exceeded in *size*, but perhaps not in *symmetry*, by a few individuals in the extensive piggery of Mr. Allen. Col. Sawyer breeds with great skill and judgment; and I hesitate not to say, that the *originals* of his Berkshire pigs far *excel*, in perfection of points and general excellence, the portraits that I have seen of them in your excellent paper.

Very respectfully yours,
Buffalo. L. F. A.

Note. I have no desire in these remarks to criticise too severely, the portraits of animals that appear in, and add so much of interest to your valuable publication. The correct drawing of animals, is as much an art as that of copying faithfully, the human face; and this accomplishment is more rare than that of the other. From the absence of patronage in this country, few have chosen that branch of the profession, and it is from this cause alone, that so few faithful copyists of animals are found.



WHITING'S WISCONSIN PLOUGH.

The inventor of this plough, by a few year's experience in the use of the common ploughs, on the prairies in the west, became fully convinced that the reason why earth so generally adheres to the mould board, is none other than the mould boards being so short and crooked as to form a hollow that catches the dirt instead of a plain flat surface, that would receive equal pressure as it passes through the sward His next step was to construct one so as to avoid the difficulties common to other ploughs, without in the least impairing its usefulness. And after taking one of the common ploughs, and using it in the prairie soil until such dirt as would naturally adhere to the board had become fully compressed, he examined it and found that a perfect straight line was formed the whole distance of the board, whether lengthwise or crosswise (as in the cut represented above) with a gradual wind to turn the sward. He consequently constructed one on this principle, and experience in its use has since taught him, as well as others, that it is the best and only principle that can be adopted, whether for prairie or other soils.

Many recommendations might be given, but the following are deemed sufficient.

The following certificate is from the Society of Shakers at Watervliet, accompanied by an order for four ploughs, and will show the estimation in which this plough is held by that intelligent society of people.

"We hereby certify that we have tried the Wisconsin plough, as exhibited to us for trial by Ebenezer G. Whiting, and we hesitate not in giving it the preference to any thing we have ever seen of the Plough kind, both for ease and utility.

CHAUNCY COPLEY, D. A. BUCKINGHAM,
BENJAMIN TRAIN, WM. THRASHER.

The following is the report of the judges appointed by the Mechanics' Association of Western New York, held at Rochester, October, 1839, awarding a Diploma to the Wisconsin Plough:

A Green Sward Plough—from E. G. Whiting. This article is constructed upon strict philosophical and mechanical principles, combining many advantages for tough, strong sward land, and those that are new and rooty, as well as those of ordinary kind, and cannot fail to be a favorite article.

C. DEWEY, L. B. LANGWORTHY, S. W. D. MOORE, *Judges.*

The following certificate is from Mr. Elias Cost, an extensive farmer at Oaks Corners, near Geneva, accompanied with an order for 6 ploughs:

OAKS CORNERS, December 15, 1840.

This is to certify that I bought a two horse plough last summer of E. G. Whiting, of Rochester, which plough I think is the best I ever used. In the first place it moves easier, and no plough can turn over the sod better. I therefore would recommend the plough to any one for a first rate article. ELIAS COST.

References for those who have never used the plough, and are unacquainted with the above recommends:—HENRY VOSBURG, Gates; MANSFIELD PARSONS, Brighton; OLIVER CULVER, do.; RODNEY LYMAN, Rochester; GEO. WHITNEY, do.; PETER BURSEE, Pittsford; ISAAC MOORE, Brighton; GEORGE BROOKS, do.; JULIUS CHAPMAN, Riga.

To avoid difficulty for those who live at a distance, patterns for points will be furnished on application.

The above plough is manufetured and sold at A. J. LANGWORTHY'S Eagle Furnace ware house, Rochester; also at No. 1 Buffalo-st. west end of the bridge, by the Patentee, or SAMUEL RICHARDSON, Agent.

N. B. Patterns for the various sizes, furnished by the patentee. Also Castings by the ton to Plough-wooders. E. G. WHITING.

WHITING'S PLOUGH.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In the December No. of your paper, I observe an article headed "Important Ploughing Match and Trial of Ploughs," purporting to have been held at Worcester by the Mass. Agricultural Society; and as that report is calculated to convey an erroneous impression, and unjustly prejudice the minds of the community against my plough, you will greatly oblige me, and subserve the cause of justice, by publishing the following remarks with the annexed challenge.

I am the inventor of the "Whiting's Wisconsin Plough," mentioned in that report, and was present at the exhibition; but as I had understood it was to be a State exhibition, and did not go with the intention of competition, but merely to witness the exhibition and test the draught of my plough; but being invited to put my plough in for trial with the others, I cheerfully did so, although without the least preparation—so necessary on such an occasion, and used to so good advantage by others. I will not now take up your time and space to detail what I deem the errors and unfairness of the report of that trial, but will do so hereafter. Suffice it for the present to say, that disinterested persons who were present at the exhibition, gave my plough a decided preference, and together with hundreds who are using my plough in this State, agree in declaring that the report is both unfair and untrue; and if *cattle* had the gift of speech, there would be more than human testimony to the same point.

Those who are in the habit of using my plough, say it runs easier than any other plough now in use in Western New York, doing equal execution; and no one can persuade them that the above mentioned report is correct, or any where near correct. In order to bring the matter to a test however, I hereby offer a reward of

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS,

for any plough, manufactured in Massachusetts, that will do as good work, and run (not 100 per cent., but even) one per cent easier than mine; and, in order that distance may not prevent a trial, I will meet any person half way, or thereabouts.

Address, E. G. WHITING,
Rochester, N. Y. March 29, 1841.

"The Northern Light."

This is the title of a large Monthly paper, just commenced at Albany, which bids fair to become very popular; and, judging from the reputation of the conductors, and the appearance of the 1st No. now before us, we can safely recommend it to such of our readers as desire a cheap, instructive, and useful paper, of unexceptionable moral character. It is published in double quarto form (16 pages) suitable for binding—Terms $1 per year in advance. The following is an extract from the prospectus:—

"The principal object of the publication is to diffuse information on subjects of practical usefulness. For the more effectual accomplishment of this object, it is proposed to give it a popular shape and to afford it at so low a rate as to place it within the reach of all classes of readers. In this respect, it will bear a strong analogy to some of the periodical publications put forth in Europe, by Societies for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge. In like manner, it will be conducted by an association of gentlemen, whose co-operation has been secured by the proprietors. The association consists of the following persons: JOHN A. DIX, T. ROMEYN BECK, GIDEON HAWLEY, AMOS DEAN, THOMAS W. OLCOTT, and EDWARD C. DELAVAN; and the immediate superintendence and management of the publication will be assumed by the individual first named. The character of these gentlemen, and the fact that they may be considered as representing a variety of interests, political and professional, afford to the public the highest security that the objects of the publication will be kept steadily and faithfully in view,

The publication will embrace four distinct branches of inquiry and intelligence:

1st, POLITICAL ECONOMY;
2d, AGRICULTURE;
3d, LITERARY & SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY;
4th, GENERAL INTELLIGENCE."

For the New Genesee Farmer.

The Past Winter.

Messrs. Editors—The winter which has just closed, has been peculiar for the mildness of some part of it. The weather has been quite uniform, though some severe changes have taken place. The barometer has shown no great variations in the weight of the atmosphere.

The mean temp. of	Dec.	1838	was	22°	76.
" "	"	1839	"	28	44.
" "	"	1840	"	25	14.
" "	Jan.	1839	"	25	51.
" "	"	1840	"	19	32.
" "	"	1841	"	27	02.
" "	Feb.	1839	"	27	78.
" "	"	1840	"	32	08.
" "	"	1841	"	23	38.
Mean of 3 winter months just ended,				25	20.
for 1840				26	61.
" 1839				25	09.

The mean temperature of February, 1840, was uncommonly high, and made the mean of the winter somewhat above that of this year. The influence of that warm month was felt through the spring, in the preparation given for the early starting of vegetables.

In December, 1840, there fell in the last half of the month, about 21 inches of snow, and near a foot of it on the 26th and 27th, forming the first sleighing of any consequence.

On Jan 3, 1841, the temperature was 1° below zero.
" 4, " " " 4 " "

The next half was warm; but on the 18th the temperature fell to zero, and the next day was only 3 above, while the rest of the month was warm. At the beginning of this month, snow fell 6 inches, and the sleighing was good till the 7th, when the whole was carried away by a sudden thaw, and on the 9th the ice broke up in the Genesee and passed over the Falls. Little snow fell the last half of the month, and the roads were smooth and fine for carriages.

February 12, 1840, the temperature was at zero, and from the 10th to the 18th was a very cold week, with constant and brisk N. W. winds; and the last half of the month was considerably colder than the same part of January. The whole month was 5° colder than that of January. Several inches of snow fell in the month, but the sleighing was at no time good. So much for the winter.

The first week of March has now passed, and has been only one-tenth of a degree warmer than the first week of February. On the 7th snow fell 14 inches deep, and the sleighing is now excellent. The present cold offers few indications of an early spring.

Rochester, March 9, 1841. C. DEWEY.

Vegetable Oyster Pudding.

"A lady of no small standing," as our Wisconsin friend says, has furnished us the following, and were we at liberty to append her name, we are sure it would be a sufficient voucher for the excellency of her dish.

"Having a great deal of salsify or vegetable oyster, I tried many ways of cooking it; at last I thought of making a pudding of it—and it is very nice indeed—fit for Queen Victoria.

"Take 1 pint of sweet cream; 3 eggs; sugar enough to sweeten it, probably 3 large spoonfuls; a tea-spoon of salt: a spoonful of bread crumbs; a tea-cup of grated salsify or vegetable oyster; and a quarter of a nutmeg. Make some pie-crust, line a dish, and bake it about half an hour."

Regretting that we cannot give the name of the inventor of the above famous dish, we recommend it to special notice; and hope in future that none of our distinguished female friends will hide their names under a bushel, though it may be no (additional) honor to them, even if appended to so fine a dish as the above.

A Scene in Asia Minor.

"Know ye the land where the cypress and myrtle
Are emblems of deeds that are done in their clime?
Where the rage of the vulture, the love of the turtle,
Now melt into sorrow, now madden to crime?
Know ye the land of the cedar and vine,
Where the flowers ever blossom, the beams ever shine?
Where the light wings of zephyr, oppressed with perfume,
Wax faint o'er the gardens of Gul in her bloom?
Where the citron and olive are fairest of fruit
And the voice of the nightingale never is mute?
Where the tints of the earth, and the hues of the sky,
In color though varied, in beauty may vie,
And the purple of ocean is deepest in dye?
Where the virgins are soft as the roses they twine
And all but the spirit of man, is divine?"

We copy the following sketch of a scene in Asia Minor, for such of our readers as are fond of flowers, and who have not read the "Letters from the Old World, by a Lady of New York. It occurred on the wild route between the Gulf of Macri and Smyrna, about latitude 37°, but if we make the usual allowance of 10 or 12 degrees on account of the difference in *physical* climate on this side of the Atlantic, we shall find no corresponding temperature in winter, nearer than the middle of Florida.

It is a sad reflection that lands fertile enough for such productions, and under so fine a sky, should be entirely deserted by the husbandman; and all this on account of the oppressor,—from the savage bandit up to "the most unlicensed and remorseless despotism that the world has ever seen." *

The party, of which this lady was one, carried their own tents and provisions, a cook, &c. &c., and encamped wherever it seemed to suit them best. Our extract begins with the morning of the third day after their departure from Macri. †

"The next morning a most glorious scene presented itself to us, which we had not observed in the dusk of the evening before. We were in the midst of a paradise of flowers of such magnificent appearance, unusual size, and profusion of quantity, that were I to relate to you a tythe of what I saw of these splendid productions of nature, you might think I was drawing largely on my imagination. Were I to tell you that I had seen *Oleander-trees* twenty-five feet in height, you might accuse me of "drawing a bow" of equal dimensions; nevertheless such is the fact; for not willing to trust to our senses, nor having the means of making a trigonometrical measurement of their elevation while standing, we caused one to be cut down, and found it to be of the height before stated, and the body of it six inches in diameter; about ten feet of the latter we have brought away, with the intention of taking it home with us. This was only one of many, many thousands which we could see at one glance.

"Very few stood singly, but as far as the eye could reach, we could see them bordering each side of a stream of water, as in Palestine, only of far greater dimensions and in greater numbers.

"In the latter country, we only saw them near streams of water, but here we find them also in the midst of the plains. But the most extraordinary and almost incredible thing for you to realize from my description is this:—Here was a plain fifteen miles in circumference, which seemed more like a land of enchantment than any thing that one can realize from the limited observations one is in the habit of making in countries where Flora is less prodigal of her favors. It seemed to me as if I was in a land where giants had been amusing themselves in arranging and cultivating parterres by the square mile, instead of by the square foot, as we do.

"Distributed over this plain in all directions were groves of *Oleanders*, from ten to one thousand feet in diameter. At the outer extremes of these circles and ovals, the trees were not more than one foot in height, and in the centre they were of the loftiest dimensions.

"The smaller plots resembled beautiful cones, while the larger ones appeared like mounds of roses, so entirely were they covered with flowers. The leaves of the larger trees measured fourteen inches in length by two and a half in diameter.

"So delighted were we with this grand Floral display, that we coursed our horses round and round them in ecstacies, plucking handfuls of flowers, and strewing them on the verdant carpet beneath our feet.

"The day began to waste away, and we had not yet made a mile of progress on our road; and our guide informed us that we should find subjects enough of this nature to engage our attention on every side of us during the whole day, if we proceeded onward. We then took up our line of march, and other scenes of a far more pleasing and not less extraordinary nature presented themselves to our astonished gaze, during the remainder of our day's journey.

"We rode through forests of flowering trees in full blossom, of such rare beauty and splendid intermixture of species and colors, and of such overpowering fragrance, that we really supposed ourselves in the midst of "the gardens of Gul in her bloom."

"Here were the *Pomegrante*, with its incipient blossom, its fully expanded bright scarlet flower, and beautiful fruit; the *Myrtle* in full bloom; *Lime* and *Orange* trees in blossom and fruit, with many others.

"What are with us but mere shrubs, cultivated with the greatest care, and demanding constant attention, are here literally standing trees of large dimensions. Around the bodies of these are seen a great variety of flowering creepers, *Honeysuckles, Jessamines*, &c. &c., which reaching to the topmost branches, hang in festoons from tree to tree, so thickly that sometimes it was with much difficulty we could make our way through them.

"Our attention was attracted to another singular appearance in the vegetable kingdom; we rode to it, and found it to be a vast field of *Heath* and *Broom* plants of so great a size that we could not at first believe our eyes, that what we beheld was the real Scotch *Heather* fifteen feet in height with bodies measuring six and nine inches in circumference of solid wood. But upon close observation we found we were not in error. *

"The whole field which was of great extent, was covered with blossoms. We saw many other fields of the same kind afterward.

"There was too much enchantment about all this scene for us to hasten from it, so we encamped early in the day in order quietly to luxuriate on the beauties of this Eden." †

Cheap and Durable Fences.

Messrs. Editors—As it will soon be time to repair fences, my plan is, where a fence is to stand without being removed, I stake out the ground, then throw two furrows towards each other, within about eight inches of meeting, then plough two more the same way and lay them on the top of the others, then plough the loose earth where the last were taken, and and shovel it on the ridge and raise it about three feet high, between two ditches. Then lay a strait fence on said ridge, by placing the bottom rails on stones or wood; cut your connecting blocks of wood about two feet long and lay up the fence five or six rails high. Then stick stakes without sharpening, in the outer edge of the ditches and lay on heavy rails for riders, and no cattle will jump or throw it down. By this method you can build a fence that will stop geese or pigs, will drain the water from the field, no bushes will grow near it, the bottom rails will last much longer, and it is not liable to blow down.

Sliding Gates for Bars.

To obviate the inconveniences of common bars, take two 4 inch scantling, 5 or 6 feet long, and frame the end of the bars into them, take up your bar posts and throw them away, place two stakes or posts near where your bar post stood, the thickness of the bars apart, and two at the other end four inches apart, to receive the frame and keep it perpendicular; mortise out at the bottom of each post so as to receive 4 inch rollers; bed two slabs down level with the surface of the ground, one at the end of the other, and your gate is done. No longer time is required to make such a frame than to make posts and bars, and it is

* Blackwood.

* In Loudon's Encyclopædia of Plants, no British *Heath* is marked more than *two* feet high; but *Erica mediterranea* is marked *four* feet; and *E. arborea*, also from the South of Europe is marked *five* feet high. Our travelers may have been very correct in their botanical examinations, but in a genus of many species (and *Erica* has 300) it is sometimes difficult to avoid mistakes. †

very easy to open and shut. It is preferable to a swing gate in the winter, in a drifted snow. I have adopted the plan many years and find it answers well.

Protecting Fruit Trees.

Build a crib round them, (drawing in towards the top,) of any split firewood; three feet long will answer the purpose, and the wood will not be lost; place something at the top to keep the trees from chafing. Such a frame will keep sheep or cattle from injuring the trees. By keeping the land loose, the hot sun from injuring the bark, and the wind from racking the trees, they will grow twice as fast.

J. SPRAGUE.

Chatauqua Co. March 1840.

For the New Genesee Farmer.

Merino Sheep.

In answer to "*A Subscriber,*" who asks information respecting the Merino Sheep imported from Spain by Col. Humphrey, I take the liberty of extracting the following from an Essay on Sheep, by Robert K. Livingston, L. L. D., President of the Society for the Promotion of Useful Arts, &c., published, N. Y. 1809.

"To *Humphrey* and *Livingston*, their country is indebted for that breed of sheep, which bears the material for the finest fabrics. The former by his poetry, has placed himself among the literary worthies of his time, and by this act has rendered himself more worthy of pastoral celebration than any swain of Arcadia. The latter had by his proficiency in the law, shown himself an upright and impartial Judge; and by this act has proved how deserving he was of the honor of the wool-sack.

The first animals of this race, were two pair bought in France by Dr. Livingston, and sent to New York under the care of one of his own servants, where they arrived in the spring of 1802. Afterwards he obtained permission to ship others, chosen from the highest bred flocks in that kingdom, by permission of the minister of the home department. All these derived their pedigree from the stock given by the Spanish monarch to Louis 16th, in 1786. This royal donation consisted of four hundred rams and ewes, assorted from the best collections beyond the Pyramus; and were conducted to their new residence under the care of Spanish shepherds. Afterwards, by the treaty of Basle, five thousand Spanish sheep were introduced by the government: and out of these national flocks was formed, by cullings and pickings, the famous flock of Rambouillet. Mr. Humphreys obtained his sheep direct from Spain. A numerous flock arrived in good health at New York—the particulars of which we insert from the report made by Eleazer Goodrich, Esq. to the General Assembly of Connecticut, in October, 1808. This gentleman and his colleague of the committee, state—That they have carefully investigated the facts and connected the various subjects referred to them: and take pleasure in observing, that Col. Humphreys, while discharging the high and important duties of his public station, availed himself of the facilities which his character and acquaintance in the capitals of Spain and Portugal afforded; and in the year one thousand eight hundred and two, extracted from Spain a chosen flock of one hundred sheep of the Merino race.

[Here follows a statement of the committee's of the results of their examination of these sheep, proving their distinguished excellence, and adaptation to the climate of this country, which general experience has since fully corroborated. We deem it therefore unnecessary to publish the statement.—Eds.]

Spanish wool was first introduced into England in the reign of Henry II, at this time the best English superfine broad cloths are chiefly made of Spanish wool.

There are two kinds of sheep in Spain distinguished as the *Migratory*, and the *Stationary* sheep:—the former are Merinos—they afford the most valuable fleeces; and this superiority has been attributed to their being exposed to a more equal temperature, ranging upon the northern mountains during summer, and pasturing during winter, on the plains and valleys of the South. Mr. Townsend states, that the wool of the Merino sheep is worth about twelve pence a pound, while that of the Stationary flocks sells only for sixpence; and that every sheep is reckoned to yield a clear profit of ten pence to the proprietor, after all expenses are discharged.

I am yours, &c.

E. HUMPHREYS.

Durham Cows, as Milkers.

The following remarks were made by Mr. Colman during a debate on the subject of Cattle, at an Agricultural Meeting in Boston, a few weeks since:—

"Mr. Colman had not intended to enter upon this discussion, but he felt it due to his official relation to the farmers of Massachusetts, to say that he had had the pleasure of seeing improved Durham stock of the Messrs. Lathrops, of South Hadley, and he thought them eminently beautiful, and evincing great skill and care in their management, on the part of those gentlemen. He had seen many of the imported animals throughout the country; and one of the herds imported for the Ohio Company, which he saw on their way, was truly splendid, and in beauty and perfection of form, far surpassed any thing which he had ever witnessed.

He must, however, in justice, add, that he yet wanted the proof of the Durham Short Horns being the best stock for our dairies. Seven of the race which he had owned, some full and others half-blood, had been inferior as milkers. The quantity of milk given by many of the animals which he had seen, was remarkable; the quality, in general, inferior; though he had found some exceptions, he believed, were accidental.

The Cheshire farmers, who were as distinguished as any in the country or in any country for the produce of their cheese dairies, preferred the native stock. From a dairy of eighteen cows, an average of 633 pounds new milk cheese to a cow, in a year, had been obtained. He had challenged in writing and conversation the owners of the Short Horns in the country to prove, by actual experiment, the dairy properties of this stock; and he would furnish of a hundred cows of our native stock, which had made from twelve to fourteen pounds of butter per week, through the season. He was far from having any prejudices against the Improved Durhams. He was an enthusiastic admirer of them; but he wanted their dairy properties tested by actual experiment. A very distinguished English farmer, Mr. Shirrer, who had made the tour of this country, expressed his regret at their introduction, and pronounced them in his book the poorest dairy stock in England. We could not be said to have formed any distinct race among ourselves, excepting the trials made by Mr. Jaques, and a long-continued improvement carried on in reference to milch cows, in another part of the State, upon which he had reported. Much, undoubtedly, yet remains to be done, but nothing in this respect can be effected but by skill, extreme accuracy of observation, and long perseverance.

He thought the Durhams not well adapted to the scanty pastures and negligent habits of many of our farmers. All high bred animals require particular care and the most liberal feed. Two of the finest oxen ever raised in the country were of this stock. One, it is believed, a full blood, from Greenland, N. H., weighing over 3400 pounds, live weight; and one a half blood, raised in Claremont, N. H., and sent year before last to England, for exhibition. His live weight was said to be 3700 pounds; and he was pronounced in England, by the best judges of stock, as unrivalled for weight and thrift, and eminently well formed.

The best breeds would soon run out if negligently or severely treated. This race were undoubtedly well suited to the rich pastures and abundant products of the West of Kentucky and Ohio. There they would flourish. What might be done for our own stock by more liberal keeping, was yet to be seen. He had known a calf from a native cow, at four months old, to weigh nearly 4 0 pounds; and another, at five months old, to weigh 600 pounds. If the improved Durham stock should prove the best for us, and he kept his mind on this subject open to conviction, we could at once avail ourselves of the distinguished improvements of half a century's skill and toil and expense, so liberally bestowed in England. At any rate, the improvements which they had accomplished in England, so obvious and impressive to the most careless observer, read a most important lesson to us, and showed what might be done by skill and care, by judicious selection, by steady perseverance in a regular system, and by liberal keeping; and presented, at the same time, the most powerful motives to exertion and enterprise in a branch of husbandry, acknowledged by all to be of the first importance."

Different Soils.

"*Soils.* Every farmer should have some general knowledge of soils, and be acquainted with the nature of plants, so as to adopt those he cultivates to the soil of his farm. This is an important branch of agricultural knowledge; every plant will flourish best in that which is congenial with its nature; and if farmers were acquainted with the art of adopting plants to soils, much manure might be saved; some soils require little or no manure to grow some kinds of plants, whereas, to grow other kinds of plants upon the same soil, requires much manure. The best *index* to the nature of soils, are the plants that grow upon it; true, the chemist has it in his power to determine the nature of soils without this *natural index*, yet every farmer who knows the timber, underbrush, and plants which a soil spontaneously produces, decides at once upon its value for cultivation.

The principal soils are *silicia*, sand, or earth of flints; *lime*, or calcareous earth; *alumina*, or clay; *magnesia*, a mineral substance; with these are blended vegetable and animal matters in a decomposing or decomposed state, and saline, acid, or alkaline combination.

The nature of *silicia*, or sand, is dry and hot—*alumina*, or clay, cold and wet—a proper mixture of the two, improve both—all experience shows that manuring sandy lands with clay, or clay lands with sand, is best for grain or pulse. But it is not the best natural soil that the farmer ought to consider, but the depth of it. The farmer should never lose sight of these facts. For if the richest soil is from four to six inches deep, and lies on a cold, wet clay, or stone, it will not be as fruitful as a poorer soil, that is deeper, or lies upon a better stratum. It is now generally agreed that gravel, if not too compact, is the best substratum to make land prolific.

We shall now attempt a plain description of the different kinds of soils, by noticing their quality. We shall begin with the best kinds of loams and natural earths; these are either of a light brown, or hazel color; hence, sometimes called "*hazel loams.*" They cut smooth and tolerable easy, without adhering much either to the spade or to the plough-share; and are light, friable, (crumbling,) and fall into small clods, without cracking in dry weather, or turning into tough mortar when very wet.

The next best are dark grey, or sometimes called "*russet mould.*" But the worst of all natural soils are the light and dark colored. These clays may all be known by the sight. There is, however, another, and perhaps as equally sure a test of good clays, as that by sight—*smelling* and *feeling*. The best kinds of clay emit a pleasant scent on being dug or ploughed up, especially after rain; and being a just proportion of sand and clay intimately blended, or mixed, will not stick much to the fingers on handling. We would however, remark, that the best soils in the world may be impoverished, and completely worn out by an unjudicious succession of crops, and especially if the ploughings are not frequently repeated before the seed is sown.

As said before, plants are a good *index* to soils; for we find, if we examine tracts of lands not cultivated, we may also find that time has adapted different kinds of plants to most of the distinguishable varieties of soils; and though some belonging to one may, from some cause or other, be found on lands of a different quality, they seldom thrive or perfect their seeds so as to become general. The great care of the farmer, ought, therefore to be, by proper mixtures, to reduce his land to that state and temperament, in which the extremes of hot and cold, wet and dry, are best corrected by each other; to give them every possible advantage flowing from the benign influences of sun and air; and to adopt such kinds of plants as they afford in this state, the greatest nourishment to; and to renew their fertility by a judicious allowance of the most proper manures. When these things are done, there are few spots so unfriendly to cultivation, as not to repay his expenses and labor, with a plentiful increase. But without these, the best of land will, in time, become a barren waste, or produce little but weeds."—*Practical Farmer.*

Paying for Luxuries.—The Packet Ship Albany, from New York for Havre, took out $150,000 in specie. So much for an article, that might as well be produced in this country, employing our own labor and capital, and furnishing a market at home for our agricultural productions.

The annual amount of cheese sold in Cincinnati, is estimated at 900 tons for the last six years.

Ontario Agricultural Society.

At a meeting of the Executive Committees of the several towns of Ontario county, convened at the Court House in Canandaigua, on the 9th instant, to fix upon premiums for 1841, it was agreed to award the following premiums, among others, upon the article of Maple Sugar, that is to say:

For the best 100 lbs. of Maple Sugar,		$7,00
" "	second best do	5,00
" "	third best do	3,00

Competitors to exhibit their Sugar at the Court House in Canandaigua, on the third Tuesday of May next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Oliver Phelps, } *Secretaries.*
Wm. Gorham, }

Acknowledgment.—We are indebted to Hon. T. Kempshall, M. C., and to Hon. A. Kelsey, for sundry interesting documents received from them during the winter.

Hatch's Sowing Machine.

Owing to the engraving not being prepared, we are obliged to defer the description of this machine till next month.

Rittenhouse & Blackwell's Clover Machine.—The description and certificates respecting this machine were received too late for this month: they will appear in our next. A. M. Hurd is agent, Waterloo

Pea-Nut Silk Worm Eggs Wanted.—Any person in this vicinity having these eggs to spare, may find sale for them at the Rochester Seed Store.

Wild Rice.—Another small quantity of this seed has been obtained from Canada, and will be distributed to such persons as desire it for experiment.

Early Asparagus.—Three bunches of Asparagus were left at the Rochester Seed Store, March 23, from the garden of Dr. M. Brown—Stephen Quinn, Gardener.

The Lost Box Found.—The box of English Seed reported to have been lost, has come to light, but probably will not arrive before the 1st of May. Some choice articles will then be on hand at the Seed Store

Errata.—(This number) Page 58, col. 3d, line 9, for miarmi read *miasmi*. Page 63, col. 1, for Robert K. Livingston, read Robert R. Livingston.

ENGLISH MARKETS.

We received English papers of 1st March, by steamer Caledonia. The flour and grain trade had been quite dull, but was thought to be reviving a little. American flour in bond (i. e. subject to duty) was 25s. 6d. per bbl. The duty on wheat remained as formerly, 25s. 8d per quarter. The Cotton trade at Liverpool was active.

NEW YORK MARKET.—March 25.

The Cotton market continues active. The sales this morning are 2000 bales at full prices. There are sales of Genesee Flour at $4 81. There have been sales of Corn at 48 cents. Rye is 53 cts. Hops 30 cts. Ashes both sorts, nominal at $6. Sales of country Mess Beef at $8,75a$9; Prime commands $5,50a$5,75. 1500 kegs Western Lard sold at 7½c.

BALTIMORE MARKET.—March 18.

FLOUR.—Limited sales of Howard street Flour have been made at $4,37½, for good common brands. The receipt price has advanced to $4,25. City Mills Flour, $4,50.

GRAIN.—Sales of Maryland white Wheats at 90 *a* 95 cents, and red at 85 *a* 90 cents. Some parcels of white were sold this morning at 97 to 100c. Sales of Maryland Oats at 25 *a* 27 cents, and Virginia at 23 *a* 24 cents.

CINCINNATI MARKET.—March 16.

During the past week the markets on the whole have been somewhat brisker. In Pork there has been an increased business; our quotations of the article are firmer, though without any advance, except in Mess, of which we can quote sales at $11 per bbl. Flour is at decided advance; sales having been made at the Canal at $3,28. The supply of the article is but light; the imports by Canal during the past week amounted to 6068 bbls, being some 600 bbls less than during the previous week.

GOLD VINE PEAS.

RAISED in Canada by the original producer of this variety, for sale at the Seed Store.

BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

Fac Similes of Letters from George Washington, President of the United States, to Sir John Sinclair, on Agricultural and other Interesting Topics. Engraved from original letters, so as to be an exact fac simile of the hand writing of General Washington. Price, $1.

For sale by D. HOYT.

Rochester, March 30, 1841.

PEAR AND CHERRY TREES.

DAVID THOMAS.

OFFERS for Sale the following select kinds which ripen in succession:—

Pears: Madeleine or Early Harvest, Jargonelle, Julienne, Skinless, September, Seckel, Virgalieu. Most of these are of large size.

Cherries: Knight's Early Black—called Black Tartarian—White Tartarian, Black Crown, May Duke, Transparent Guigne, Carnation.

Ornamental Plants.

Trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials in great variety, which will be sold cheap.

Greatfield, near Aurora, Cayuga co. 3 mo. 30. 1841.

FRUIT TREES, MULBERRIES.

THE subscriber offers to the public the usual very large assortment, comprising the choicest Fruit Trees, of every class, and embracing all the newest varieties. Also an immense collection of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Flowering Plants, Green House Plants, Bulbous Roots, and the most extensive assortment of splendid Dahlias in the Union; All these articles will be sold at a reduction to suit the times, and as cheap or cheaper than they can be elsewhere obtained. For the silk culture, are offered the finest varieties of Mulberries, which are the Circassion, Elata, Alpina, Multicaulis, and Broussa; all of which are very hardy except the Multicaulis, and that withstands ordinary winters.

The State of New York having now granted a bounty of $2 per lb on Silk, and Massachusetts and Vermont having done the same, they will no doubt take the lead in this great national pursuit. WM. R. PRINCE.

Flushing, March 7th, 1840.

N. B.—Priced catalogues will be sent to every applicant. Any persons who wish to establish silk plantations will be supplied with trees, payable by a share of the proceeds.

The Imported English Horse, "Emigrant,"

WILL stand for Mares the ensuing season, at the barn of Mr. C. Ashton, in Shelby, one mile west and half a mile south from Medina, Orleans Co., where he has stood the two last seasons.

It is but just to say that he is not probably surpassed by any horse in Western New York. Good judges who were at the Fair in Rochester, last fall, think that if he had been there he would have taken the premium without any doubt. His stock is right—just the thing for farmers and the market. Gentlemen who wish to raise good horses will do well to call and see.—He is extensively known in Livingston county.

T. H. ASHTON,
J. SHERWOOD,
R. L. CHASE.

Medina, Orleans Co., March 9, 1841.

SAVE YOUR QUILLS.

A HIGH PRICE—say $1,50 to $2,00 per thousand—will be paid for any quantity of good goose quills, delivered at the Rochester Seed Store.

April 1. BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

GRASS SEED WANTED.

A VERY HIGH PRICE will be paid for good clean Timothy Seed, delivered soon at the Seed Store.

March 1. BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

CLOVER SEED,

OF EXCELLENT QUALITY for sale at the Seed Store. BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

March 1.

"FRANK,"

"OR Dialogues between a Father and Son, on the subjects of Agriculture, Husbandry and Rural Affairs." This interesting and instructive volume is now for sale by D Hoyt, State st., Rochester. The extracts published in the New Genesee Farmer during the past year, cannot fail to convince the readers of that paper of the value of this book, especially as a present for farmers' children, or young people in the country.

March 1.

Seeds at Auburn.

In the list of Agents published last month, T. M. Hunt, Auburn, was omitted by accident.

Agents for the Rochester Seed Store.

A FULL assortment of seeds, put up at the Rochester Seed Store, may be found at each of the following places. Subscriptions will also be received there for the "New Genesee Farmer and Gardener's Journal."

Buffalo,	W. & G. Bryant.
Lockport,	S. H Marks & Co.
Albion,	C W Swan
Brockport,	George Allen.
Scottsville,	Andrus & Garbut.
Le Roy,	Tompkins & Morgan.
Batavia,	J. V. D. Verplanck.
Attica,	R. & N. Wells.
Warsaw,	E. R. Baseom.
Perry,	L. B. Parsons & Son.
Mount Morris,	R. Sleeper.
Nunda,	W M. Chipman.
Geneseo,	J. F. & G. W. Wyman
Canandaigua,	J B. Hayes.
York,	R. H French.
Geneva	A Hemiup
Waterloo,	Abram Deuel.
Auburn,	T. M. Hunt.
Palmyra,	Hoyt & May.
Syracuse,	T. B. Fitch & Co.
Utica,	J. E. Warner.
Oswego,	D Canfield
Hamilton,	J A. Mott.
Cooperstown,	S. Doubleday.

BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

Rochester Seed Store, March 1.

ROCHESTER SEED STORE--1841.

BATEHAM & CROSMAN, the proprietors of this well known establishment, respectfully inform the public that they have now on hand a general assortment of superior English and American SEEDS of the growth of 1840, and other articles in their line of business.

For the FARM—choice varieties of Corn, Grain, Grass, Clover, &c., and seeds for *Root Crops*, such as Mangel Wurtzel, Sugar Beet, Carrot, Ruta Baga, English Turnip, &c.

For the GARDEN—all the most valuable and approved kinds of esculent Vegetable Seeds. Those which grow in greater perfection in Europe, are annually imported from England;—such as the different varieties of Cabbage, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Radish, Turnip &c. Onion seed is obtained from Wethersfield, and other articles are raised for this establishment with great care.

FLOWER SEEDS—about 200 varieties of the most beautiful and interesting kinds.—(Price 50 cents per doz. papers.)

ROOTS AND PLANTS—Choice kinds of Potatoes, Asparagus and Pie-plant roots, Cabbage, Cauliflower and other plants in their season.

TOOLS AND IMPLEMENTS, of various kinds, for the Farm and Garden. And a large collection of valuable BOOKS on subjects connected with farming and gardening, silk culture, &c.

SILK WORM EGGS—of different kinds, on hand in their season.

☞ CATALOGUES gratis on application. Merchants supplied with Seeds at wholesale, on liberal terms. Orders from a distance containing a remittance, or good city reference, will receive attention.

BATEHAM & CROSMAN.

Arcade Hall, Rochester, April 1, 1841.

*** Publishers of newspapers, in Western New York and Upper Canada, who choose to insert the above 6 times, shall be entitled to three dollars worth of seeds, on demand at our store, or any of our advertised agencies. B. & C.

MOUNT HOPE GARDEN & NURSERIES,

ST. PAUL STREET,

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

THE Proprietors of this establishment offer for sale an extensive assortment of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Flowering Shrubs, Green House Plants, Bulbous Flower Roots, Double Dahlias, &c. &c.

Gardens laid out, and Gardeners furnished on reasonable notice.—Persons requiring information on any subject connected with the business, will receive a prompt reply.

All orders, letters of inquiry, &c. must be addressed (post paid) directly to us.

Trees, Plants, &c., will be carefully packed, so that they may be carried to any part of the country in safety; and packages will be marked and shipped as may be designated in the order.

Persons with whom the proprietors are unacquainted, are requested to give a satisfactory reference, or name some person in the city of Rochester, who will guarantee the payment. ELLWANGER & BARRY.

Rochester, Dec. 1, 1840.

AGENCY FOR PERIODICALS.

WM. A. HERRICK, No. 61, Buffalo st., opposite Eagle Hotel, Rochester—Agent for
Godey's Lady's Book,
Graham's Gentleman's and Lady's Magazine,
Littell's Select Reviews,
The New Yorker,
The New World.

ROCHESTER PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED FOR

THE NEW GENESEE FARMER, APRIL 1, 1841.

WHEAT,	per bushel,	$ 79 *a* $	81
CORN,	"	37½	
OATS,	"	25	
BARLEY,	"	37½	
RYE,	"	50	
BEANS, White,	"	62½	75
POTATOES,	"	22	25
APPLES, Desert,	"	38	50
" Dried,	"	75	88
CIDER,	barrel,	100	150
FLOUR, Superfine,	"	4,12½	4,25
" Fine,	"	3,75	4,00
SALT,	"	2,00	
PORK, Mess,	"	10,00	11,00
" Prime,	"	8,00	9,00
" Hog,	100 lbs	3,75	4,00
BEEF,	"	4,00	4,50
POULTRY,	per pound,	8	
EGGS,	per dozen,	12½	15
BUTTER, Fresh,	per pound	12½	15
" Firkin,	"	10	12½
CHEESE,	"	6	
LARD,	"	7	
TALLOW, Clear,	"	8	9
HIDES, Green	"	5	
SHEEP SKINS,	each,	87½	1,00
PEARL ASHES,	100 lbs	5,00	
POT,	"	4,50	
WOOL,	pound,	35	40
HAY,	ton,	7,00	8,00
GRASS SEED,	bushel,	1,50	2,00
CLOVER,	"	6,00	
FLAX,	"	75	87½
PLASTER, (in bbls)	per ton,	6,00	
" bulk (at Wheatland)		3,50	